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TODAY

PARIS FALLS TO THE BRITS
Grace Bradberry on a fashion revolution
PAGE 18

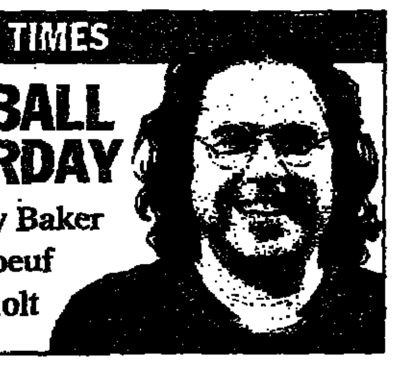
ANATOLE KALETSKY
Shares face a gentle decline, not a crash
PAGE 29

CATS AND KITTENS
The Germaine Greer debate
PAGES 13,19

TOMORROW: THE SATURDAY TIMES

IZZARD IN NEW YORK
PLUS WIN 100 CDs in metro

FOOTBALL SATURDAY
Danny Baker
Frank Leboeuf
Oliver Holt



Minister sought anti-Tory message

Civil servant quits in row on ‘spinning’

By Jill Sherman and Valerie Elliott

TENSIONS over apparent attempts to turn civil servants into government spin doctors grew yesterday as a senior information officer resigned and a minister was reportedly rebuked after a row about a *"political"* press release.

Jonathan Haslam, who was John Major's last press secretary, joined the exodus of senior officers after a bitter wrangle with the Education Minister Stephen Byers over a sentence critical of the Tories in a statement about parents' choice of schools.

Mr Byers had drafted the press release and asked Mr Haslam on Tuesday night to prepare it for the next day. But Mr Haslam infuriated the minister by refusing to include a paragraph saying: "This further increase in the number of appeals by parents shows *how hollow the claim of the* previous Government that they were extending parental choice really was." Mr Haslam, supported by his colleagues, said that the sentence was too political.

The following morning, it is understood that Mr Byers summoned Michael Bichard, the permanent secretary, to complain about Mr Haslam. Sources say, however, that Mr Bichard used the occasion to *upbraid the minister* for attempting to break the Civil Service code of impartiality.

He is said to have reminded the minister of the guidance on the actions of information officers which states: "These *should be* objective and explanatory, not tendencious or polemical *and should* not be,

Byers: warned about rule on objectivity

or liable *to misrepresentation* as being, party political".

Mr Byers then contacted the Labour Party press machine at Millbank to ensure that the absent paragraph was included in a party press release sent *out at the same time as that* prepared by Mr Haslam.

Within 24 hours, Mr Haslam had *announced* that he had resigned to become director of corporate affairs at the London Metal Exchange. He refused to be drawn on the incident with Mr Byers.

Whitehall *sources* have accused ministers in other departments of trying to insert political statements into press statements criticising "the Tories" or "the *previous* adminstration". Complaints have been *also* been made to Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary, about the media handling of the £300 million diverted to the National Health Service this week.

Ministers, used to the the *services of the Millbank* rebuttal unit when in opposition, are known to be concerned that their press officers have not tried to promote their stories and last month Alastair Campbell, the *Prime* Minister's press secretary, issued a memo to all information officers complaining about their failure to put the Government's case across.

Whitehall sources admit *that their operation could* be sharpened up — Sir Robin has already set up a review — but they resent any suggestion that they should depart from their traditional impartiality.

They have recently become *so alarmed about recent* "spinning" of stories that they held a meeting with their union officials yesterday to discuss the problem. They also complained that ministers and their political advisers were *sniping about them.* One press officer who resigned was said to have been described by a political source as "dead meat".

The meeting came hours after Jean Caines, director of information at the Trade and Industry Department, confirmed that she was taking early retirement at the age of 50. She is known to have had a number of run-ins with junior ministers.

Peter Mandelson, the Minister without Portfolio who is in charge of government presentation, has said that the information service is valued and that reports about politicisation are groundless.

Rough ride, page 11
Leading article, page 21

PETER NICHOLLS

Tai-Shan Schierenberg with his golden wedding anniversary painting

The Queen accepts that royal image must change

By Christopher Thomas and Alan Hamilton

THE Queen has accepted that the Royal Family must change its image after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, senior *Palace officials* accompanying the troubled royal tour of India have told *The Times*.

There will be no sudden switch of style, but a source close to the Queen spoke yesterday *of the need to demonstrate* "softer, gentler touches" in the wake of what he described as the first royal tragedy to occur in the mass media culture. But his admission was accompanied by the *issuing of a warning that* "no one should ever try to persuade any member of the Royal Family to be anything they are not".

There was not much that the Queen — aged 71, on the *throne for more than 45 years*, and about to celebrate her golden wedding anniversary — could do to create the gentler touches that she had not already done, the source said, but he suggested that people were *noticing* her efforts a bit more.

Last week in Pakistan, the Queen added a distinctly human note to a speech when she complained that the world was beginning to move too *fast for someone* of her age. But her sympathetically received admission has been overshadowed by the mire of diplomatic trouble and negative press coverage that has plagued much of her tour.

Palace *officials, who had* hoped for a successful projection of the Queen on the international stage, yesterday emphasised the "old technical position" that the Queen was in India on the advice of *ministers* in Britain, and that "she does not go out on a *limb*". This *seemed* a *thinly* disguised attempt to emphasise that responsibility for last week's *remarks* by the Queen in Islamabad, in which *she urged a solution to the* Kashmir conflict, lay firmly with the Foreign Office.

But if the monarchy is determined to become more demotic and populist, it could do worse than agree to sit for a *golden wedding portrait* commissioned by the very antithesis of elitism, *Reader's Digest*. The result, unveiled yesterday at the magazine's London offices, may disappoint those accustomed to the flatteries of *court painters from Holbein to* Annigoni, but it attempts to portray the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh as an ordinary, human, married couple. The picture will appear in the *Digest*'s November issue. *The original*, which will remain for the time being at its offices, may be offered to a provincial art gallery.

It is the work of Tai-Shan Schierenberg, born in Skegness 35 years ago to a Chinese *mother and German father*, whose previous sitters have included the writer John Mortimer and Lord Carrington, the former foreign Secretary.

"I wanted to display solidity and reliability, which is why *the pose is a bit monumental*," Mr Schierenberg said yesterday. "But I also wanted to convey the Queen's spark of wit, and to say something about their relationship. Despite the formality that their position imposes, *there is* a humanity there. The Duke is

Continued on page 2, col 1

Threat to conference 17
Diamond demand 17
Philip Howard 20

University anger at Blunkett attack

An eminent scientist working on revolutionary project to defeat malaria has been drawn into a row over an "astonishing" attack by David Blunkett on university academics teaching his student son Alastair........ Page 2

Smith U-turn on Waterstone's

WH Smith performed a strategic *U-turn* yesterday when it announced plans to demerge the Waterstone's chain and to sell the Virgin/Our Price music business and The Wall, its US music business. Page 25

TV & RADIO 46, 47
WEATHER 24
CROSSWORDS 24, 48
LETTERS 21
OBITUARIES 23
MATTHEW PARRIS 20
ARTS 35-37
CHESS & BRIDGE 43
COURT & SOCIAL 22
SPORT 41-46, 48
FASHION 18
EDUCATION 38-39

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Paedophiles face life bans from children's play areas

By Philip Webster and Shirley English

LAWS banning paedophiles *from* schools, playgrounds and other risk areas are *expected to be introduced* by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, within the next few weeks.

Courts would be able to impose restriction orders on convicted sex offenders that *would ban them* indefinitely from areas where they might reoffend, under *proposals* likely to figure in the Crime and Disorder Bill.

The community protection orders would carry a penalty of up to five years' jail and unlimited fines if they were breached and could also cover people who commit paedophile crimes overseas. *Police* officers or local authorities could apply for the order if they were concerned about a sex offender in their area.

Mr Straw is also expected to introduce proposals that *would subject* convicted paedophiles to supervision orders that may require them to keep in touch with probation officers *long after their sentences* had expired.

The move was disclosed by Henry McLeish, the Scottish Home Affairs Minister, as a possible new law for Scotland and it was confirmed later that ministers were considering similar measures for the *whole United Kingdom.*

Mr McLeish said: "If there is a concern in a community, there could be a court order backed up by reports which will actually infringe on the liberties of this individual. It will detail areas they cannot go to. This could be an in*definite order, depending on* their behaviour, and it could also be punishable by up to five years in prison if they break the order.

"This will put tremendous pressure on the individual and, more importantly, it will reassure the community that the Government is listening, the Government wants further *action*."

Sir Brian Mawhinney, the *Shadow Home Secretary*, said the Tories would scrutinise the plans because they broke new territory.

He said: "Everybody ... finds crimes identified with paedophiles to be disgusting, *depraved and unacceptable*, but what we are not in the position of doing, I think, without a lot of careful consideration of the actual legislation ... we need to understand ... the implications for some of the fundamental freedoms of citizens of this country, *particularly those who* have paid their debt."

Civil liberties groups and lawyers also criticised the plans. They said the measures risked "opening the door to harassment" and might

Continued on page 2, col 6

Lords deal double blow on handguns

By Nicholas Watt, political correspondent

THE Government suffered a double defeat in the House of Lords last night over its plans to introduce a total ban on *handguns*.

However, within minutes of the votes Labour made clear that it would waste no time in overturning the *defeats* when the Government's Firearms (Amendment) Bill returns to the Commons.

Peers inflicted their first *defeat on the Government* when they voted by 119 to 101 — a majority of 18 — to exempt disabled people from the ban. Later, peers voted by 90 votes to 77 — a majority of 13 — to allow international competition shooting to continue at specially approved and secure *national* centres. *About 75 of* the 119 who voted to allow disabled *pistol* shooters to carry on with their sport were hereditary peers.

The exemption for disabled people from the ban was introduced by Lord Howell, the former Labour sports minister, who told peers that he had campaigned for years for the disabled and this took *precedence over party loyalty.*

Lord Crawshaw, a Tory peer, *said it* was hard for disabled people to change from using pistols to rifles or shotguns which were too heavy, but Lord Williams of Mostyn, the junior Home Office minister, said he could *not accept any exemptions.*

Last night Mike Yardley, of the Sportsman's *Association*, which has lobbied against the proposed ban, welcomed the vote. "It shows the Lords have been listening to our case."

A Labour Party spokesman said: "The total ban on handguns *is supported by the* overwhelming majority of the public and by an overwhelming majority of the House of Commons. The public will be bewildered that the House of Lords has sought to dilute the Bill."

Housewife cycles into a speed trap at 43mph

By Emma Wilkins

A HOUSEWIFE who wanted *to lose weight* was stopped by police on her bicycle after speeding through a *radar trap* at 43mph.

Ros Jones, 43, was advised to take up gentle cycling by her slimming instructor to help to reduce her weight from 14st 4lb. Mrs Jones, of Golden Grove, Carmarthenshire, decided to use her daughter's bicycle for the daily *seven-mile* trip to the nearest town, Llandeilo.

As Mrs Jones became fitter *she cut the journey time from* an agonising hour and a half to 45 minutes. But she also ran into trouble with the police after she was recorded *in a radar trap exceeding the* speed limit by 13mph.

Mrs Jones, now a trim 11st 1lb, was surprised and embarrassed. "I had no idea I was *going so fast,*" *she said* yesterday. "I could see the police officer pointing his machine towards me but I though he was after the car behind. I couldn't believe it when he pulled me over and said I'd been clocked at 43mph. I never been *in trouble* with the police in my life and it was a terrible shock to be stopped. The *policeman* gave me a right ticking off."

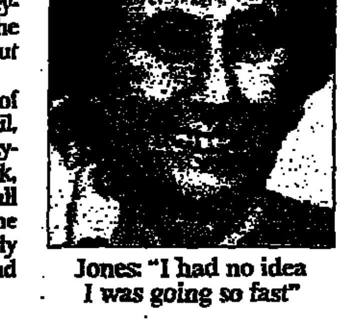
The bicycle will *now* be fitted with a speedometer.

Dyfed Powys Police said yesterday they had decided to let Mrs Jones off with a warning.

PC Alan Rowlands said: "It is quite possible to achieve that speed because she's got a high-gear mountain bike. I have known other bicyclists with similar cycles to do in the region of 40 miles per hour quite easily *on the* flat. The road she was travelling on is not hilly at all."

In September Anthony Adams, 24, was fined £120 under a 150-year-old *law for* bicycling "furiously" through the streets of Cambridge at about 25 mph.

Phil Heaton, secretary of the Road Time Trials Council, the governing body for cyclists *riding against the clock*, said: "43mph is fast but not all that fast. Competitors in the Tour de France regularly touch between 70 and 80mph."



Jones: "I had no idea *I was going so fast*"

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Review of party funding could lead to early legislation

Valerie Elliott on the appointment of Sir Patrick Neill as standards watchdog

A LIMIT on the amount political parties can spend on general election campaigns came a step closer yesterday.

Sir Patrick Neill, QC, formally appointed by Tony Blair to replace Lord Nolan as the public standards watchdog, confirmed he would examine all aspects of party political funding. At the same time, Mr Blair promised legislation to clean up the system.

In future, corporate donations to election funds could be capped and require shareholders' approval. State funding for parties will be examined, as will the type of blind trust set up to fund Mr Blair's office in opposition. The issue of allowing civil servants to be seconded to help to run party offices will also be looked at.

Sir Patrick's wide-ranging review of party funding coincided with the announcement from Mr Blair that he was to introduce early legislation to ban foreign donations to political parties and to make public the name of any donor who contributes more than £5,000.

Sir Patrick, who is to take up his new post next month and is to become a life peer, is still waiting for his formal remit from Mr Blair, which he expected to be drawn up with the agreement of the other political parties. But it is clear that if new rules are brought in by the next general election, they could signal more restrained political campaigns. It is believed that in the last election the Conservatives spent £20 million, Labour £13 million and the Liberal Democrats £3 million on their national publicity drives.

Sir Patrick said yesterday he would look at the funding of opposition parties, including how party leaders funded their offices. There have been many questions asked about the "blind trust" set up to run Mr Blair's opposition office, although his aides insist it was done to protect Mr Blair so that he would not be influenced by knowing the names of donors and how much they had given his campaign.

Sir Patrick said it would be "anomalous" if party leaders' funding was not included. "There has to be a package of rules that are fair across the parties. If there were methods of getting round the statutory controls or escape routes nobody would have confidence in the system."

He insisted he had a completely open mind about party fuding but that he might look at party expenditure as well as income.

"One possible aspect we're looking at is overall expenditure by the parties. There's a limit on what candidates can spend, but no limit on what the parties can spend at an election time. And that strikes most observers as somewhat odd. There are also questions about income."

Sir Patrick, a former Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University, hopes to bring out a discussion paper on all the issues concerning party funding within three months and to take evidence in public next spring.

Mr Blair said: "The purpose of putting Pat Neill in charge of the new committee is so that he can look at all the aspects of the way that political parties are funded, the way their campaigns are run.

"Because what is tremendously important is not just to clean up the standards in Parliament, to make sure there's proper openness and honesty in the way that Members of Parliament conduct their business, but also that political campaigns and the way that parties are funded have the same openness and transparency."

Veteran watchdog, page 11

Scientist defends academics from Blunkett attack

Minister's son complained teachers were too busy with research, says David Charter

AN EMINENT scientist working on a project to defeat malaria was yesterday drawn into a row over an attack by David Blunkett on university academics teaching his student son Alastair.

Professor Julian Crampton heads the biological sciences department at Liverpool University, where lecturers were criticised by the Education Secretary for spending too much attention on research and too little on teaching students — among them Mr Blunkett's son, a second-year marine biologist.

Academics at the department expressed amazement yesterday after Mr Blunkett said: "The people teaching him are not interested in teaching. They are more interested in their own research. I don't think that's acceptable."

Professor Crampton, who teaches undergraduates, is part of a team trying to alter the genes of mosquitoes so that instead of spreading malaria they become "flying syringes" that deliver a vaccine. The method could prevent the two million deaths from malaria each year.

The department defended its record and said its groundbreaking research helped to inform teaching. Staff pointed to "rave reviews" from students on 20-year-old Mr Blunkett's course.

Trevor Norton, professor of marine biology, described the Education Secretary's outburst as "astonishing". Speaking from the university's Port Erin marine biology centre on the Isle of Man, he said: "I cannot believe these comments deal with the course taught here. I am just astounded and cannot believe he could accuse my staff of that. The enthusiasm with which they teach this particular course is outstanding. We get more applications and inquiries for marine biology than all the other biological sciences put together."

He said the department conducted an annual anonymous survey of students' views and received "rave reviews". He said academics' research brought "immediacy and a cutting edge" to their teaching. Professor Norton added: "I think students should have a right to complain about courses they take if they are not good enough for whatever reason, but I think it is rather unfortunate his father should say this.

"One of the things our students say they like best is the very close contact with the members of staff on the course. It is one of the special things they get out of being here."

Mr Blunkett's office yesterday said the comments were made at a seminar for vice-chancellors on Tuesday which the Secretary of State thought was "off the record".

One of the recommendations of the recent Dearing Committee report on Higher Education was an Institute of Teaching and Learning to train university academics to become better teachers. The Government's response will be contained in a White Paper on Lifelong Learning to be published before Christmas.

A spokesman for Liverpool University added: "As a university we are committed to the principle of teaching within an active research environment, and we believe we can demonstrate the benefits which students derive from that."

Chloe Smith, president of the Guild of Students at Liverpool, said Alastair Blunkett had kept a low profile at the university. She added that students often found it hard to adjust to the more pro-active role.

Andrew Taylor, chairman of the Liverpool Association of University Teachers, said lecturers' research was vital. "If universities were just to be for teaching, then presumably we would still be teaching that the earth is flat."

Blunkett: said staff not interested in teaching

Viscount Tonypandy: "eager to bend the knee to anyone above his station" says Sir Robert Rhodes James

Tonypandy was 'malicious bully'

BY NICHOLAS WATT
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

VISCOUNT Tonypandy, the Commons Speaker who was eulogised when he died last month, was denounced yesterday as "an arrogant, sanctimonious, deceitful and malicious bully".

Sir Robert Rhodes James, the former Tory MP who is a distinguished historian, dismissed the viscount "as a fraud and a charlatan, eager to bend the knee to anyone above his station and thinly contemptuous of anyone deemed to be below it".

Sir Robert said that he first came into contact with him when he served as a Commons clerk in the early 1960s. In an article in *The Spectator* Sir Robert accused the then George Thomas of chairing a standing committee in a dictatorial manner.

Under the headline "Not As Nice as All That", he wrote: "His harshness was directed less at the Members than at the hapless officials: he bawled out the policeman at the door for not closing it on time; he was nasty to the *Hansard* reporters; he treated me with contemptuous disdain, as he did all officials. Unsurprisingly, we deeply disliked him, regarding him as an arrogant, sanctimonious, deceitful and malicious bully."

Sir Robert said that when he became MP for Cambridge in 1976 Thomas's attitude to him was transformed. He said: "I had suddenly become important; he earnestly desired me to be his friend; he called me to speak and intervene in the House with almost embarrassing regularity; his mother, the legendary 'Mam' having died, he felt free to share a glass of whisky with me ... But despite all this, with my memories of how he had been, I viewed him through cautious eyes. I had, after all a vote, and George was very keen on being re-elected Speaker."

The former MP added that Tonypandy's legendary Welsh charm concealed a vicious streak. His attempt to wreck the career of a senior clerk backfired when he was confronted with a mini-mutiny.

Sir Robert praised his charm and wit, but described him as one of the greatest establishment converts of his time.

Royal image

Continued from page 1

very protective of his wife, and always refers to her as The Queen. She is very loving towards him, and refers to him as 'Philip'."

The artist had a total of six hours of sittings for his 6' by 5' canvas, mostly with his subjects separately, except for an initial joint session in a room in the couple's private apartments at Windsor Castle.

At that first session, the Duke complained of having to sit on "a bloody uncomfortable sofa", but soon entered into the spirit of the engagement, making helpful suggestions and even moving furniture. "The Duke is naturally bad-tempered, but I think he realises it is part of his charm. In repose, he is quite scary; he has an edge to him," Mr Schierenberg said. "The Queen is much easier. She is very amusing and laughs easily. She is a much looser and nicer person to be with. Even she was happy to move lights and furniture."

At one sitting, the Queen produced a copy of last year's controversial portrait of her by Antony Williams, which featured her with enormous veined hands complete with snagged fingernails. "Look at my fingers; they're not really like that," she said.

The Queen sits for about six portraits a year, most formal and destined to hang in regimental messes or the boardrooms of her patronages. Paintings of the couple together are much rarer.

'Soft' sentence on child molester is overturned

BY LIN JENKINS

A CONVICTED child molester had his suspended sentence converted into a 15-month jail term by three Appeal Court judges yesterday to reflect public condemnation of the crime and as a warning to other potential offenders. Peter Reed, an oil company executive, was not in court and was ordered to surrender himself and be taken to prison.

The judges imposed the sentence after hearing that the Attorney General John Morris had objected that the original 18 month suspended sentence was "too soft" a penalty for sexually abusing three boys aged between six and 11. He acted after the parents of the victims, who were friends of Reed's own three children, said they were furious that he should be free when classified as a continuing risk to children.

Lord Bingham, the Lord Chief Justice, said there were no exceptional circumstances to justify the lenient sentence.

"The public rightly and strongly condemn offences of this kind," he said. "Parents are entitled to look to the courts for effective protection and that means that sentences imposed on those who transgress as seriously as this must involve a clear punitive element which doesn't exist when the offender is free to continue his ordinary life.

"It is necessary to mark the public condemnation of such offences by a sentence of imprisonment both to punish the offender and deter others. Sentences must have a clear punitive element."

Reed, 44, of Sevenoaks, Kent, molested the children when they came to play with his own three children.

Paedophile ban

Continued from page 1

erode the "bedrock of British justice", namely, the presumption of innocence.

The measures would close a loophole in the recently introduced Sex Offenders Act which requires only sex offenders released after September 1 to register their names and addresses with the police. It does not carry any powers to force offenders to modify their behaviour once free.

The proposals were being viewed yesterday as an attempt by the Government to regain public confidence after a spate of vigilante attacks in which communities took the law into their own hands and drove sex offenders, as well as innocent people, from their homes.

In Aberdeen, the public hysteria resulted in riots. In Stirling in February mobs gathered outside an offender's home and police officers had to be called to escort him to safety. Similar scenes also occurred recently in Swindon in Wiltshire.

Community safety orders would be effective in cases such as that of Robert Oliver, 43, a convicted paedophile and killer who was released last month after serving eight years of a 15-year sentence.

He has since been driven from his home in Swindon and has stayed in four other addresses. He is now in a police safe house in Brighton, but is not covered by any statutory parole guidelines or supervision.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Letter bomb sent to Trimble

Army bomb disposal experts yesterday defused a crude letter bomb sent to David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist Party leader, at his constituency office in Lurgan, Co Armagh.

Similiar devices have been sent in recent days to Jeffrey Donaldson, the party's MP for Lagan Valley, and Robert McCartney, leader of the UK Unionist Party and MP for Down North. No organisation has claimed responsibility for the attacks.

Other paramilitary incidents included a Londonderry teenager snatched from his home and found a few hours later with cigarette burns, and a man ordered to leave the city by a gang that accused him of sexual abuse.

Two die on M25

Two people were killed in an accident involving eight vehicles which closed the M25 in Essex before the start of the evening rush hour. A lorry smashed through the central reservation and landed on top of a car near the Dartford crossing. Two men, one from each vehicle, died at the scene. Police arrested a driver in connection with the crash.

Red meat 'safe'

The cancer scare over red meat is unjustified, two Cambridge specialists have claimed. In contrast to advice given by the Department of Health, Brian Cox and Margaret Whichelow of the Institute of Public Health say their studies give no evidence that eating meat more than once a week increases the risk of cancer.

Divers missing

Two women are missing, believed drowned, on a diving holiday in the Galapagos Islands. Julia Hawke, from London, sister of Lord Hawke, and Susannah Stephen, from Edinburgh, both 37, vanished on Sunday while making their first 15-minute dive. The Foreign Office said local divers were still searching for the women.

CS spray backed

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, strongly backed police use of CS sprays yesterday and rejected a coroner's call for a review. Two weeks ago an East London jury delivered a verdict of unlawful killing on an asylum-seeker who had been arrested. Dr Harod Price, the Coroner, called on chief constables to examine the use of the sprays.

Saudi sentence

Lucille McLauchlan, one of the British nurses accused of the murder of an Australian colleague in Saudi Arabia, will receive no more than five years in jail, after the agreement by the victim's brother to waive the death sentence and accept £750,000 instead, Ghazi al-Gosaibi, the Saudi Ambassador to Britain, said yesterday.

Gas poisoning

Florence Nightingale may have been a victim of untreated carbon monoxide poisoning, according to a medical pressure group, which claims that modern GPs are still grossly misdiagnosing the illness. A study published by CO Support says that out of 77 sufferers, only one was initially diagnosed correctly. Cases were mistaken for flu.

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Mother pleads for help to trap road rage killer

Police seeking the driver who rammed a car, killing two young lovers, are checking film from speed cameras

A young Karen on holiday in Florida

POLICE hunting the driver who is said to have rammed the back of a young couple's vehicle, forcing them off the road to their deaths, yesterday released details of the car they were seeking.

The registration plate begins with K5 and the vehicle is described as a white or light-coloured saloon.

The investigation into the deaths ten days ago of Toby Exley, 22, and his girlfriend, Karen Martin, 20, has been taken over by murder squad detectives. They are looking at film from traffic speed cameras along the A316 in southwest London, known as the Great Chertsey Road.

The families of the couple called for witnesses or anyone who knows the identity of the driver to contact them.

Miss Martin's mother, Kay, said: "There must be someone out there who knows who this maniac is. This man is likely to do this again and he needs to be stopped. We want to prevent another family feeling the utter devastation that we're feeling now."

Mr Exley's brother Robin, 19, said: "Toby has had his life stolen from him, and me and my brother Ben have had Toby stolen from us.

"The person who did this should be stopped and they should stop and think about our family and Karen's family. Anyone out there could be victims of this person."

The crash took place on October 6 but police only released details on Wednesday evening after a witness came forward to tell how the car had pushed the young couple's vehicle off the road.

The saloon car is said to have come up behind the couple's Ford Fiesta in the fast lane heading westwards at Hanworth at about 8.50 pm. The driver became impatient with their speed and rammed into the back of their car three times.

Mr Exley could not move into the slow lane because of traffic but moved to the right of the fast lane to let the saloon pass. The saloon then hit him again, catching the left hand rear of his car and forcing him to veer right into the wooden central reservation. A motorcylist who saw the incident stopped near the crash and told police what he had seen. But traffic police could not find anyone to verify the story. This week they mounted road checks on the A316 at the time of the accident and two motorists backed up the motorcyclist's story.

Toby Exley was a chef and Miss Martin worked for an advertising agency.

Apart from the description of the saloon from the witnesses, scientists have also examined the wrecked Fiesta and found signs of ramming. Paint scrapings will help police to identify the saloon.

Scotland Yard said yesterday that other drivers must have seen the incident and launched a new appeal for witnesses. The police want to find other drivers who may have had difficulties with the saloon that night. Garages are being asked to report any suspicious body work repairs.

Police have started gathering film from speed cameras and the closed-circuit television cameras which monitor traffic on the A316. The road leads on to the M3 and cameras on the motorway will also be checked. Eventually police may widen their search even further and ask other forces to help.

Mrs Martin, 54, said: "He must have driven like that before. Someone must have seen the damage to the front of his car and he must now be acting differently. The slightest bit of information could be crucial — and could help save someone else's life. There must be some poor soul out there who is going to get it from him again."

Mrs Martin added: "They were such lovely people, a beautiful couple. We felt marriage was definitely on the cards, although it had not actually been spoken about. There is no way that Toby would have taken any chances with Karen in the car as he was too much in love with her to put her in any danger. He was immensely sensible."

Anyone with information should contact the police incident room on (0181) 2476377 or 2476343.

A recent photograph of Karen Martin and Toby Exley

Police camera catches disabled woman walking

By Russell Jenkins

Danielle Haskell worked for Manchester airport and Britannia Airways

A FORMER ballerina, whose plight touched the heart of thousands when she was confined to a wheelchair, has been filmed by a police spy camera walking unaided.

Danielle Haskell, 33, was voted Oldham Woman of the Year in 1993 for the wholehearted way she fought her disability, helping to raise thousands of pounds for charity with parachute jumps and wheelchair pushes.

Her carers were last night coming to terms with the revelation that Ms Haskell, who lives in a specially-equipped flat for the disabled, in Oldham, Greater Manchester, can walk 12 years after she became paralysed from the waist down. The camera is understood to have caught her on foot in her ground floor flat in Coldhurst, owned by a housing association in Oldham.

The secret video camera was set up to discover who was causing damage inside her flat. Ms Haskell complained to police that she was being stalked and, in one short spell last month, almost a hundred 999 calls were made from her flat.

Ms Haskell told police that her flat had been broken into, but police have so far found no evidence of an intruder. Superintendent Dick Crawshaw said: "We acted in Miss Haskell's best interests by offering her advice and then setting up surveillance outside her home. We were surprised to find she could walk."

Ms Haskell became paralysed in 1985 after she complained of numbness in her legs as she was about to take up a dancing job in Greece. Since then she has became a well known figure locally.

In 1992 she took part in a wheelchair push to Hull. She worked at Manchester International Airport in an advisory capacity to help the airport cater for disabled people. The role led to a similar unpaid post with Britannia Airways.

She said at the time: "I absolutely love doing this work. I find I am able to relate more easily to the disabled more easily than able-bodied people." A year later she became Woman of the Year.

Ms Haskell refused to come to the door of her flat yesterday. She said through the security intercom: "I have been told by my solicitor not to talk to anyone."

A spokesman for social services said that Ms Haskell has been in receipt of housing and other benefits. A police spokesman said: "It is anticipated that in the near future the occupant of the premises will be interviewed by the police."

Detectives suspended over drug allegations

By Paul Wilkinson

TWO detectives from a squad running a zero-tolerance crime policy have been suspended after allegations that they gave heroin to drug-addict prisoners in exchange for confessions.

A third officer with the Cleveland force has been given a final warning about his conduct. The detectives, based at Middlesbrough on Teesside, are also accused of beating up suspects.

They are part of the CID controlled by Detective Superintendent Ray Mallon, who advocates the zero-tolerance policy of not allowing even the most minor offence to go unchallenged. He has pledged to resign if crime in the town was not reduced by 20 per cent. His tough stance has achieved national celebrity and has been praised by the Prime Minister and Jack Straw, the Home Secretary.

Last night Richard Brunstrom, the Assistant Chief Constable (Operations) with Cleveland, confirmed that the Police Complaints Authority had launched an inquiry into the allegations.

Princess crash survivor freed to seek damages

From Ben Macintyre in Paris

TREVOR REES-JONES, sole survivor of the crash in which Diana, Princess of Wales, was killed, has become a civil plaintiff in the continuing criminal inquiry into its cause.

The move means that as a party to the case, Mr Rees-Jones, 29, will have access to the police file on the investigation and will be able to seek damages from whoever is found to be responsible for the crash. Under French law, Mr Rees-Jones, a bodyguard employed by Dodi Fayed, cannot now be interviewed by French magistrates or police without the presence of his lawyer.

The accident on August 31 left Mr Rees-Jones with serious face and chest injuries and partial amnesia. He was flown back to Britain earlier this month after two interviews with French police in which he said that he could not remember the crucial seconds immediately before the crash.

A medical examination ordered by Hervé Stéphan, the investigating magistrate, has concluded that the type of amnesia from which Mr Rees-Jones suffers is rarely reversible. The investigators believe that Mr Rees-Jones was injured by an initial impact on his right side, which triggered the front-seat airbag of the car, followed by a frontal impact seconds later. The bodyguard was the only person in the Mercedes limousine wearing a seatbelt.

Bernard Dartevelle, a lawyer for the Fayed family, has asked Judge Stéphan to release all video footage obtained from security cameras, banks, offices or news organisations relating to the car's final journey from the Paris Ritz to the tunnel beneath the Place de l'Alma.

☐ Mr Fayed's body has been removed from a cemetery near Woking, Surrey, and reburied on his father's country estate 25 miles away near Oxted, Surrey.

Mohamed al Fayed attended the ceremony on Wednesday night, after obtaining permission for disinterment from the Home Office. His proposals for a mausoleum will be considered next month by the local council's planning committee.

Branson ready to fly again

By Andrew Pierce
Political Correspondent

RICHARD BRANSON is planning to spend Christmas Day in a hot-air balloon 30,000ft up on his third attempt to circumnavigate the globe.

The millionaire adventurer told a London press conference yesterday that the Virgin team had ironed out the faults which brought the Global Challenger down to earth less than 24 hours after take-off from Marrakesh last year. The Virgin boss has spent the past nine months analysing flight data from the capsule which was retrieved from Algeria where it came to grief. Mr Branson said: "We believe we have worked out what went wrong and that we now have equipment that will succeed."

The balloon was forced to land only 20 hours into the flight. Now information on temperature, pressure and altitude has been analysed with the results used to create computer models capable of plotting the behaviour of future flights.

The attempt will begin around December 1, again in Marrakesh. Mr Branson will be joined by his long-term partners, Piers Lindstrand and Rory McCarthy, with supplies for a Christmas Day lunch.

Mr Branson's is one of four teams battling to become the first to circumnavigate the world non-stop.

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(Okay, so we made the last one up.)

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PHILIPS

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Mother denied custody over judge's 'shock' at naked couple

Woman wins new hearing after Court of Appeal criticises ruling, reports

Frances Gibb

A MOTHER who lost custody *of her children* because they had seen her and her fiancé naked won a rehearing yesterday after two Court of Appeal judges criticised the judge for *allowing himself to* be "shocked".

The 37-year-old woman, who cannot be named for legal reasons, lost a battle for the *children with her estranged* husband in June this year. She was defeated, the Court of Appeal *was told, after* a county court judge heard that she and the man she plans to marry had allowed her children — a boy aged 9 and a girl aged 6 — *to see them* naked and shared baths with them.

Yesterday, overturning the order by Judge James Wigmore and ordering a rehearing of the custody battle, Lady Justice Butler-Sloss said: "The judge appears to have allowed his *instinctive* reaction to the uninhibited behaviour of this couple and their lack of recognition of others' attitudes to override everything else in this case.

"Judges should not allow themselves to be shocked. *They can be disapproving* but they must not allow themselves to be shocked. He was plainly wrong.

"These are perfectly decent, respectable people. They may have been unwise but there was nothing to suggest the children were at any risk of abuse."

During yesterday's hearing *the mother's counsel*, Paul Storey, said the children's father, with whom they had been living after the marriage broke down in 1996, had reported his estranged wife and her boyfriend to social services and police when the children mentioned seeing them naked. Social workers had questioned the boy and, in view of the father's reaction, advised the mother not to let the children see them naked again *or to share baths. Both* police and the social workers felt no further action was necessary and the couple promised to follow their advice.

But the father refused to allow the youngsters to stay *with their mother and when* the custody hearing came up in June he argued that the children should not live with her because of the nudity and communal bathing.

Judge Wigmore accepted there had been no question of *child abuse and accepted the* mother and her boyfriend's promise not to repeat the nudity or the bathing was in good faith. But he awarded custody to the father, commenting that he had known of children being taken into care *for* less and he found the attitude of social services "startling".

Butler-Sloss: *had never* come across such a case

Lady Justice Butler-Sloss, one of the country's most *experienced* family law judges, said yesterday she had never come across such a case and she doubted Judge Wignore had. "To be thoughtless and *indiscreet does* not raise a child protection problem. This is not abusive *behaviour. I absolutely fail to see* how an indiscreet and uninibited attitude could lead to child protection concerns," she said.

"*In a happy, well-run family*, how members behave in the privacy of their own home *is their business and no one* else's." However, she added that with the custody battle coming up, the mother and her boyfriend had possibly been careless and indiscreet in view of the father's attitude, although she did not doubt the *innocence of their actions*.

Speaking outside the court the mother said: "I am just so relieved that they have actually seen the other judge was wrong. I couldn't believe it. It frightened me to death. We thought it was all over after we talked to social services. I didn't think it was going to come up.

"*I never thought there* was anything wrong in nudity. My children have seen me without any clothes on lots of times. And as for the bath, it was just popping in together for five minutes on a Sunday morning." She added: "It was all so *innocent and it became so* misconstrued."

JOAN RUSSELL

Anthea Boyleston of the Bradford team that has examined *remains of 29 victims; many* died as they fled

How chivalry died in Roses battle

By Paul Wilkinson

A *MASS* grave from the bloodiest battle fought on British soil has dispelled n any lingering belief in the chivalry and honour of medieval soldiers.

It has also shown a physical strength among the troops *that was far superior to* modern man in spite of the comparatively poor diet, stature and health of the period. Archaeologists who examined the remains of *29* victims of the Wars of the Roses battle of Towton in 1461 found that many *had suffered* a merciless fate.

The engagement which lasted *most of the day*, left the field awash with blood according to contemporary reports. It ended in a Yorkist victory and secured the throne for Edward IV but up to 28,000 soldiers died.

Far from being an heroic *engagement in the style of Morte d'Arthur*, the conflict involving about 120,000 men *was fought mainly* by yeoman foot soldiers on a bitter March day. Six hours of hand-to-hand fighting in driving snow and mud ended with the rout of the Lancastrians and bloody retribution.

Christopher Knusel, of Bradford University, who examined the skeletons, said: "People *have a view of medieval* warfare as being about chivalry, ransoms and people being captured and not killed. But these guys would *just beat the hell out of each* other and were pretty damn tough. One man had 12 *injuries to his head. He had* been mutilated after death. We suspect this was medieval *reprisal* killing by *livery* soldiers."

> ❛ People have a view of medieval battle as chivalrous, but these guys just beat the hell out of each other ❜

His team was called into the site near Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, after it was discovered by workmen *building* a garage. They found that many of the soldiers were repeatedly beaten about the head and face after they had *died. The head wounds* included crush injuries from maces, flails and ball-hammers, cuts from swords or knives and puncture wounds from arrows or pole axes.

Many of the blows were delivered to the top of the head, *indicating the victims* had been kneeling or lying when they were hit.

The *archaeologists found* healed earlier injuries showing that the men had survived previous battles. Some skulls bore dents and sword slashes.

Dr Knusel said the soldiers' physical strength was impressive. Some had used *longbows requiring twice the* pull exerted by today's best archers. He said: "They were very robust fellows, very broad, although not tall."

The bones are *likely to be* reburied at All Saint's Church, Saxton, near Tadcaster, alongside *other* previously excavated remains from the battle.

Lawrence Butler, *senior* lecturer in medieval archaeology at York University, said that not finding any horsemen among the casualties suggested *that* if the battle was going against them, the upper classes of horsemen would *quickly* get away.

Woman is urged to sell home to pay for son's fees

By Shirley English

A MOTHER being sued by her son was yesterday urged to sell her home to meet his £400-a-month demand for maintenance to finance his time at university.

Patrick Macdonald, 20, estranged from his mother for almost five years, claimed that *his law studies at Aberdeen* would suffer if she did not support him and he was forced to work part-time. He refused to take out a student loan — although it was claimed he had been awarded one for £1,685, plus a full grant — because he *did not want to* get into debt so early in life.

On the second day of the interim hearing at Edinburgh Sheriff Court, Mr Macdonald's *solicitor*, Martin Burns, rejected his mother's claim that she was struggling to make *ends* meet on her £45,000 salary as a Scottish Office solicitor.

He said that if Margaret Macdonald, 53, was strapped for cash then she *should* sell her ten-room home to meet the bills. "If she is worried about maintaining a house of that size, she may wish to consider moving to alternative accommodation," he said.

He also suggested that she could make *savings* from an "emergency fund" which she dipped into to pay for a *summer choral course at Eton* for her youngest son who intends to study music professionally. But Mrs Macdonald's solicitor, Jenny Gibbs, *said her client* wanted to keep the family home to provide some stability for her four *other children, for whom she* has been the sole provider since her acrimonious divorce in 1994.

Sheriff Daphne Robertson said she would make a written judgment within the next few days on whether Mrs Macdonald *should* make *interim* payments pending the full civil hearing next year.

Leading article, page 21

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"special hairdressers"

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PAUL MITCHELL
LUXURY HAIR CARE

Mother fights to keep £½m award for birth blunder

By Frances Gibb
Legal Correspondent

A MOTHER awarded compensation of about £500,000 because a health authority failed to warn her that her pregnancy could kill her is fighting to uphold the award after a challenge by the authority.

Mr Justice Astill ruled in May this year that the mother was entitled to claim the full cost of rearing her daughter from Croydon Health Authority. The woman has been diagnosed as suffering from a potentially deadly heart condition.

The decision, reached in the High Court in London, was the first to allow a mother compensation for the cost of rearing a child born from a planned pregnancy. Similar cases in the past have allowed damages for the cost of unwanted children, usually the result of failed sterilisation operations.

But yesterday the ground-breaking award was under attack from Croydon authority, which was ruled liable for compensation. Lawyers for the authority are urging the Court of Appeal to overturn Mr Justice Astill's decision, claiming he was mistaken in law. Adrian Whitfield, QC, said the 39-year-old mother, a qualified nurse, should not receive a penny towards bringing up her daughter, now almost 8, or for the depression she suffered on learning she was unlikely to survive long enough to see her child grow up.

The High Court had been told that the mother, who cannot be named for legal reasons, had undergone a medical examination arranged by Croydon Health Authority in 1988 after applying for a post at one of its *hospitals*.

She was passed fit for work and took up the job, but the doctor who examined her had failed to spot signs that she had primary pulmonary hypertension. The next year the woman, who had previously miscarried twins, and her husband decided to try for another baby.

Their hopes were rewarded but in the later stages of her pregnancy she developed breathlessness so severe that she had to be flown back from a holiday abroad for hospital treatment. *Only then was her* heart condition spotted. The mother was told she might not survive the pregnancy because the strain on her heart had exacerbated the condition. If she did survive, she was told, her life expectancy would be between five and ten years.

Although she survived the birth, in November 1989, and her condition had improved to the point that she might live another 20 years, she is still too ill to give her daughter the care she would have been able to.

Her lawyers had argued that she was entitled to the full cost of rearing her daughter, for although she was a wanted baby, her mother would never have allowed herself to become pregnant if she had been warned of her heart condition.

But the authority, while admitting its original medical examination of the mother had been negligent, claims her pregnancy was not a foreseeable loss and that she should not receive damages stemming from it. The hearing continues.

Doctor tells how he battled to halt baby operations

Professor says no one took notice of his warnings about number of deaths, writes Ian Murray

AN ITALIAN professor said yesterday that he struggled in vain with an indifferent British hospital management to stop surgeons performing operations that were killing babies.

Gianni Angelini told the disciplinary committee of the General Medical Council that he spent nearly 18 months trying to make senior surgeons and the chief executive of the United Bristol Health Care Trust realise that the mortality and morbidity rates among babies having heart operations there were unacceptably high.

"My view was that I was banging my head against a brick wall. I was getting nowhere," he said. Dr Angelini, who was appointed Professor in Anaesthetics at Bristol University in 1992 by the British Heart Foundation, said his task was to set up an academic department of cardiac surgery.

A year later, the honorary consultant at Bristol Royal Infirmary was approached by Stephen Bolsin, consultant anaesthetist, who showed him figures of the death rate among babies given "switch" operations to transfer their great arteries. He found the death rate to be very high and decided to take advice from senior heart surgeons at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in London and Bristol University.

He then discussed what he had been told with colleagues, including James Wisheart, 59, the medical director, and Janardan Dhasmana, 57, the consultant surgeon who was carrying out the switch operations. He also saw John Roylance, 67, the chief executive of the trust, on a number of occasions to raise his concerns about the death rate.

All three doctors have denied serious professional misconduct. The two surgeons are charged with continuing to perform cardiac surgery on babies even though they knew that their mortality rates during these operations were well above the national average. Dr Roylance, as chief executive, is charged with failing to use his authority to stop the operations.

Dr Angelini, 44, said he thought the best way to resolve the problem was to appoint a new paediatric cardiac surgeon, "to bring new blood into the department". He said his various meetings got nowhere.

"My feeling was that Mr Wisheart did not agree with the data, did not agree there was a major problem and certainly did not agree to the appointment of a new cardiac surgeon."

In 1994, as he was still getting nowhere, he called a formal meeting with Dr Roylance taking with him as witness Christopher Monk, the clinical director of anaesthetic services. "Having exhausted all the possible chain of command my next step was to ask the chief executive to use his authority to solve the problem if he was willing to do so. I thought there was a very serious problem. I had figures that showed unacceptably high mortality and morbidity rates.

"I thought there was reason for concern and I wanted Dr Roylance to give some time to those concerns." The meeting did not go well. "The perception I had was that there wasn't a great deal of interest from Dr Roylance, rather a considerable degree of irritation."

Again nothing happened, so he saw the chairman of the hospital trust who asked him to work with another Bristol University professor, John vann Jones, to draw up a report.

This warned that paediatric heart surgery at the trust needed a major shake-up.

The hearing continues on Monday.

JIM BOURG/REUTERS

Deborah Eappen, mother of baby Matthew, being cross-examined by Andrew Good, the lead defence lawyer

Au pair 'hated dead boy's parents'

By Tunku Varadarajan

LOUISE WOODWARD, the British au pair charged with murdering a nine-month-old boy in her care, "hated" the baby's parents and thought that Matthew Eappen and his two-year-old brother were "spoilt brats", the court in Cambridge, Massachusetts, was told yesterday.

Kathleen Sorabella, who spoke to Miss Woodward regularly in a Boston theatre queue for return tickets to the musical *Rent*, said that Miss Woodward told her that she intensely disliked working at the home of Sunil and Deborah Eappen, the parents of Matthew. Mrs Sorabella, 30, who befriended Miss Woodward in the queue for *Rent*, which she had seen 40 times and Miss Woodward more than 40, described her first conversation with the au pair. "She said that the parents were very demanding, that she didn't like them. They told her that they had a curfew and she didn't like that."

The witness, who is a mature student at a Boston college, continued: "She said she was tired all day, that she'd change a diaper in the morning and then leave them in it all day. She said she'd go to sleep during the day." Mrs Sorabella continued: "She hated it ... the job. She referred to the baby as a brat. She called the boys spoilt, fussy." Later, under cross-examination, she said: "I can't recall if she hated the children. But she definitely hated the parents."

Andrew Good, Miss Woodward's defence attorney, who had earlier looked ill at ease when cross-examining Matthew's mother, called into question Mrs Sorabella's reliability as a witness. Mrs Sorabella had a "history of misrepresentation", he said. He cited as examples "deliberate misstatements" she had made to a car leasing firm.

During the earlier cross-examination of Mrs Eappen, an apparent contradiction emerged in the statements made to police by Miss Woodward — in which she said she had treated Matthew "a little roughly" and that he may have hit his head on the side of the bath — and the explanation Mrs Eappen said Miss Woodward had given over the telephone after the boy had been admitted to hospital. According to Mrs Eappen, Miss Woodward had assured her that Matthew had "not hit his head against anything".

The trial continues.

Search for child goes on despite man being charged

By Russell Jenkins

THE search for a boy who vanished five months ago will go on, despite the court appearance of a man charged with abducting him, detectives said yesterday.

Jamie Lavis, 8, disappeared from his home in Higher Openshaw, Manchester, on Bank Holiday Monday in May. Greater Manchester Police launched an extensive investigation but failed to find the boy. Detectives are now convinced he has been dead for some time.

Darren Vickers, 27, who was arrested on Tuesday at an address in Stockport, appeared at Manchester City Magistrates' Court yesterday accused of kidnapping the child. He was remanded in custody for eight days.

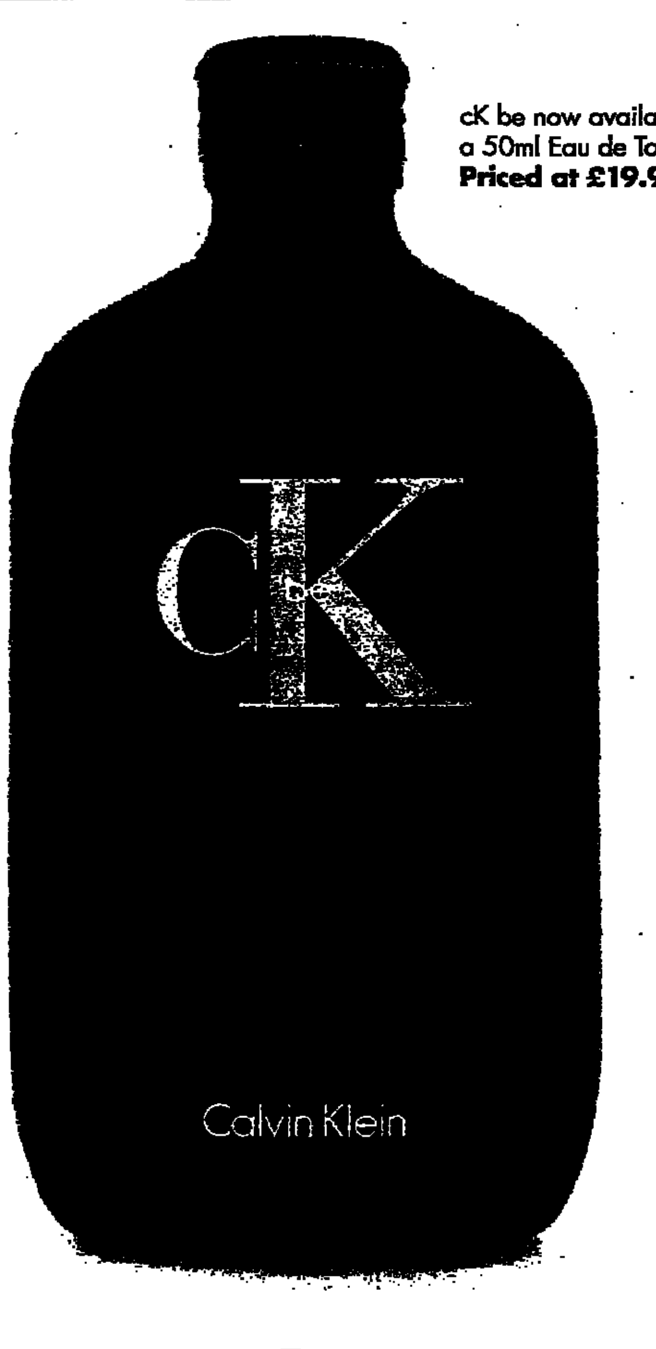
Detective Superintendent Roy Rainford, who is heading the investigation, insisted that the hunt for the missing boy did not stop with the court appearance. "I want to remind everyone that this inquiry has been active for 23 weeks. For the majority of that time it has been conducted as a murder inquiry and that murder inquiry continues. I would like you to remember that Jamie Lavis has not been seen by family and friends since May 5 this year. I need to find Jamie and so he can be returned to his family and allowed to rest in peace."

Mr Rainford issued a fresh appeal to people to search their memories "even if it means searching their consciences" for fresh information about the boy's whereabouts.

Jamie went missing after he was grounded by his parents for staying out late. Later, security cameras caught him wandering alone on a deserted Piccadilly station platform before catching a bus to Ashton-under-Lyne.

In June, officers combed undergrowth in Boggart Hole Clough park at Blackley after a tip-off that the boy was buried there. Nothing was found.

Jamie's parents have made numerous public appeals for anybody who knows what happened to their son to come forward.



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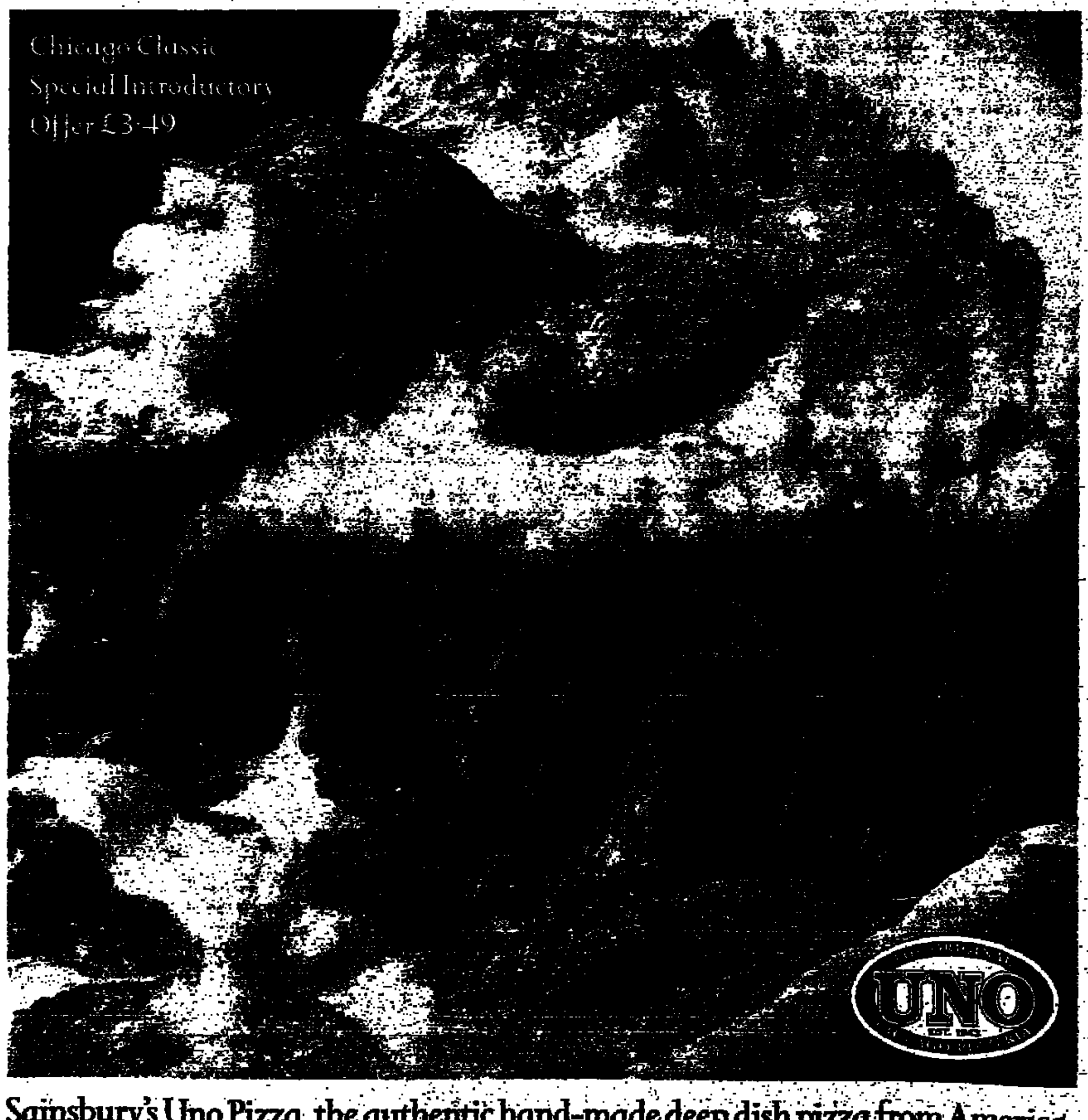

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Passive smoking increases risk of heart disease 25%

The smallest amounts of tobacco smoke can affect the blood, reports Nigel Hawkes

LIVING with a smoker increases the risk of heart disease by a quarter, according to a new analysis.

This means that thousands of people die every year in Britain as a result of breathing other people's smoke, Malcolm Law, one of the team from St Bartholomew's Hospital and the Royal London School of Medicine responsible for the finding, says.

It is remarkable and even implausible at first sight, as its authors acknowledge. But they believe that even the smallest traces of tobacco smoke are enough to increase the stickiness of the blood and trigger heart attacks.

The finding is based on a series of studies carried out by other people that have measured the risks of heart disease in smokers, non-smokers and passive smokers. They show that the increased risk for passive smokers is about 30 per cent, but a proportion of this is attributable to diet because smokers and their spouses tend to eat less healthily. When this factor is excluded, the additional risk is about a quarter.

This means that passive smoking is about half as risky in terms of developing heart disease as smoking 20 cigarettes a day, in spite of the fact that the actual amount of smoke inhaled by a passive smoker is about one hundredth that of a smoker.

The reason for the paradox, the Barts team says in the *British Medical Journal*, is that the blood is extremely sensitive to small exposures to tobacco smoke. The effect is to increase the tendency of platelets in the blood to stick together, helping to form clots and block the bloodstream.

"Our result confirms the high risk of a heart attack arising from breathing other people's smoke and shows that it is likely to be due to the blood clotting system being very sensitive to small amounts of tobacco smoke," Dr Law says. "The risk represents several thousand avoidable deaths from heart attacks each year in Britain."

In a second paper in the journal, Dr Law and his colleagues conclude that lung cancer is increased by 26 per cent by passive smoking. This is in line with previous studies, but because lung cancer is a very rare disease in non-smokers, the total number of extra deaths is smaller than for heart disease.

Professor Nicholas Wald, a co-author of both papers, says: "The two papers clarify the health risks of breathing other people's smoke. The risk of heart disease is surprisingly large and our work shows how this can be explained in terms of known biological mechanisms. The work on lung cancer took into account the accumulation of a large amount of new information and this completely supports the estimates of risk that were made ten years ago."

Commenting on the findings yesterday, Tessa Jowell, the Health Minister, said: "These are shocking figures, bearing in mind these are people who choose not to smoke. The studies reinforce the already compelling case for reducing smoking rates. We are determined to tackle these rates."

Northerners have highest death rates from cancer

PEOPLE who live in the North of England are most at risk of dying from cancer, statistics released yesterday show. Death rates from the disease there are 14 per cent above average for men and 19 per cent for women.

The figures comparing mortality rates in England and Wales in 1995, collated by the Office for National Statistics, also show that the death rate for lung cancer was highest in the North — 33 per cent above average for men and 47 per cent for women. The North West has the highest death rates from respiratory diseases — 18 per cent above average for men and 15 per cent for women.

The figures, in a comprehensive report on deaths in England and Wales between 1993 and 1995 which includes information on death rates by age, sex and marital status, comes just after the Government pledged to tackle health inequalities.

The Public Health Minister, Tessa Jowell, has promised a wide-reaching strategy to confront the underlying causes of ill-health in England. The former chief medical officer Sir Donald Acheson is carrying out an independent review of health inequalities and a Green Paper on health strategy called "Our Healthier Nation" is expected by the end of the year.

Ms Jowell said: "We want to tackle the underlying causes of ill-health and to break the cycle of social and economic deprivation and social exclusion. This signals a major change in the nation's policy, to maximise good health, as well as treating sickness." *(PA News)*

PAUL HACKETT/REUTERS

The Spice Girls dolls herald an avalanche of spin-offs; stationery is estimated to bring in £10 million alone

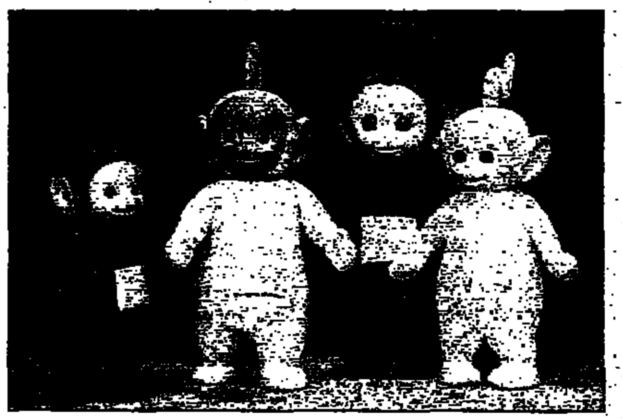
Girl power tackles Teletubbies

By Philip Delves Broughton

A TEAM of Spice Girls dolls was unveiled yesterday to take on the Teletubbies in the battle to fill the nation's Christmas stockings.

The Spice Girls dolls — limited to 100,000 — will descend on toy shops in the middle of December. Demand should comfortably outstrip supply, guaranteeing queues, crushes, scarcity value, and tears round the Christmas tree. Another 400,000 dolls will be distributed after Christmas to coincide with the launch of the Spice Girls movie.

Each doll is 11½in tall and will cost just under £20. For that, you get one Spice Girl in one outfit, carrying a microphone and with one accessory, a handbag, rucksack or ghetto blaster according to character.



A million Teletubbies are heading for the shops

Early versions of Posh Spice had to be ditched after complaints that the doll had a grin atypical of the pouting Victoria Adams. Her mouth is now a mere Mona Lisa crinkle. Scary Spice has a colossal embonpoint underneath her leopard-print suit, while Ginger Spice, whose shelving bosom is on near constant display in real life, is disappointingly flat. She barely fills out her Union Flag mini-dress. Baby Spice has had her puppy fat trimmed and wears a Prozac smile and a pink mini-dress. Sporty Spice, of course, wears sports gear.

The girls themselves asked for discreet tattoos to be added to their dolls, which are being distributed under licence by Character Group.

For fans unable to acquire a doll, there is plenty more kit on its way, from pencil cases to make-up and umbrellas. A pink briefcase emblazoned with the words "Girl Power" is expected to be popular with homosexuals.

The smiles and sweaty palms of the licensees who attended the British Association of Toy Retailers fair in London yesterday said all that needed to be said about the money involved. One estimate was that the group would make £10 million from stationery alone.

Spice, however, is not the only player on the pitch as the toy makers prepare for Christmas and the bulk of their annual £1.86 billion of sales. In volume terms, the Teletubbies are hot. About a million versions of Tinky Winky, Laa Laa, Dipsy and Po will be on sale. They cost between £5.99 and £14.

Veterans Barbie and Action Man remain popular, as do Star Wars figures. Cyber pets, or Tamagotchis, were launched in May and more than a million should be sold this year.

There are only 69 shopping days left until Christmas.

45 million carrying herpes virus in America

From Tunku Varadarajan in New York

ONE in five Americans aged 12 or older carries the virus that causes genital herpes, an increase of nearly a third since the late 1970s, scientists disclosed yesterday.

Results of studies conducted at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, show that 45 million Americans are now "genital herpes-positive".

That rise, detected after tests on 40,000 people between 1988 and 1994, suggests that the emphasis on safe sex in the Aids era has failed to provoke an increased awareness of the perils of genital herpes.

The study, directed by Robert Johnson, finds that herpes is more prevalent among women (25.6 per cent) than men (17.8 per cent). There are also pronounced racial differences, with 45.9 per cent of black people suffering from, or carrying the virus of, genital herpes, compared to Mexican Americans (22.3 per cent) and white people (17.6 per cent).

The researchers, however, detected that the virus has increased fivefold since the late 1970s, among white teenagers and has doubled among white people in their twenties.

As with Aids, people can transmit the virus to a sexual partner even when they do not betray any symptoms. Only 9 per cent of the people surveyed knew they had the virus.

The researchers have appealed to health authorities to launch an Aids-style herpes education and information programme. New steps, they say, should include screening for genital herpes at clinics for sexually transmitted diseases and on pregnant women. New-born infants can die if infected with the virus.

☐ The syphilis epidemic in the former Soviet Union, where cases have risen 15-fold in adults, is spreading to Britain. In one central London clinic, half of the 11 cases treated during 1996 had acquired the disease from a Russian partner, the *British Medical Journal* said.

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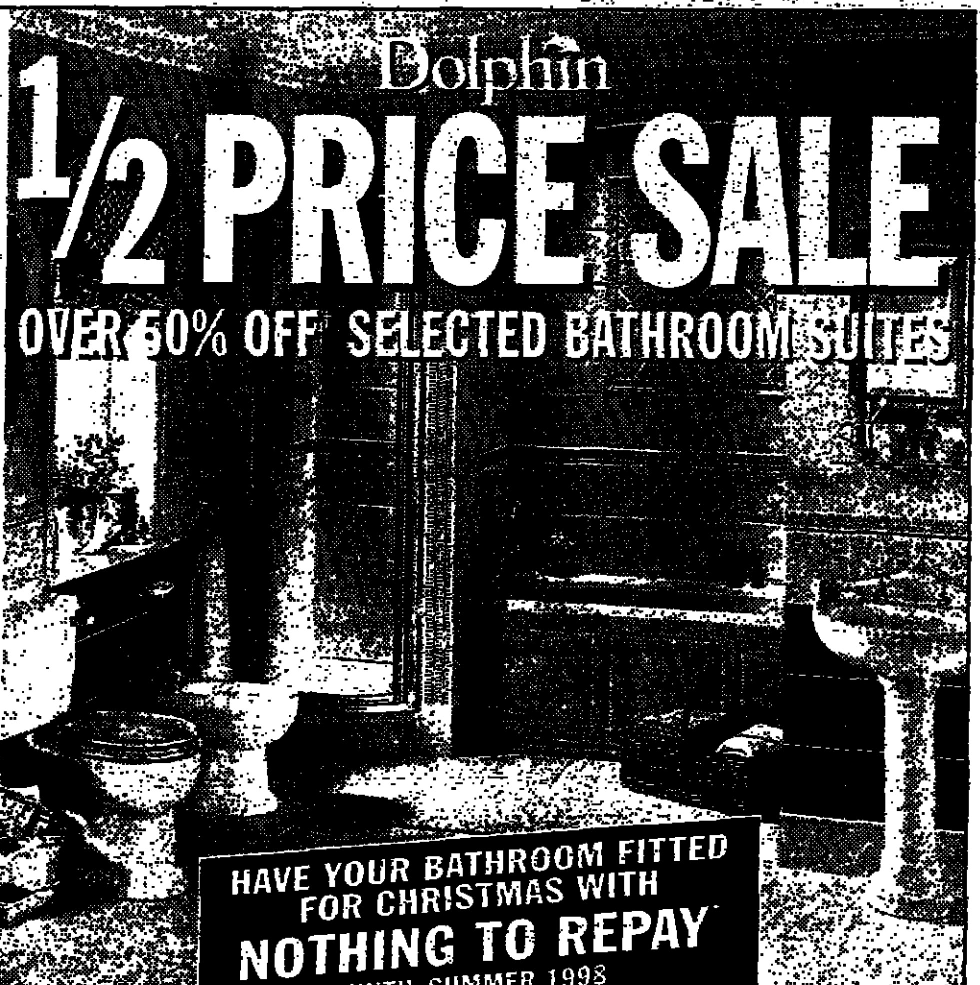

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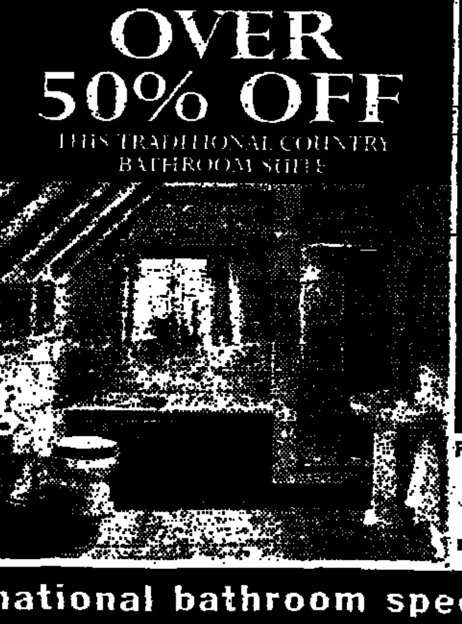

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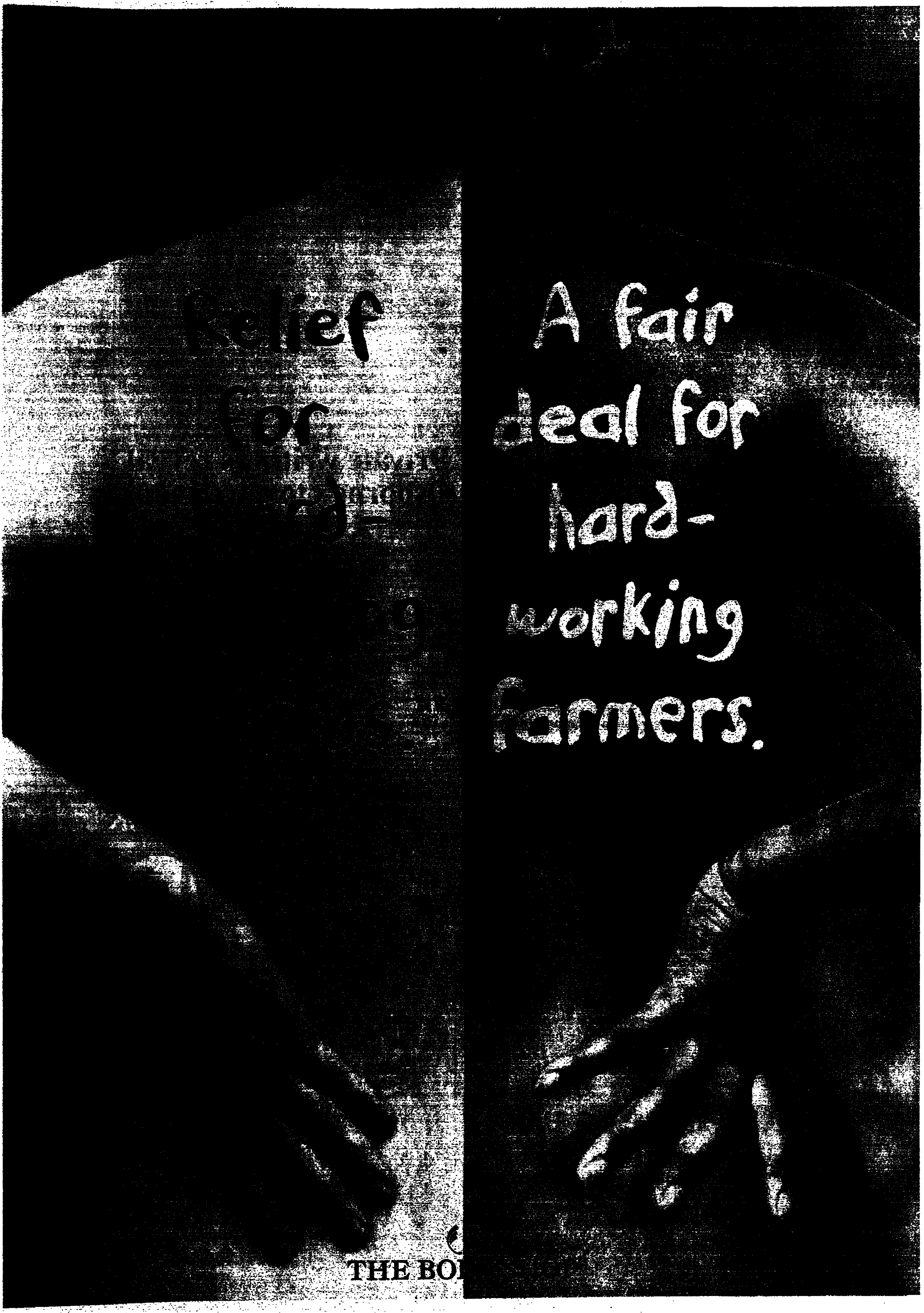

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Unknown author is paid record £420,000

Dalya Alberge on a writer's happy ending at the Frankfurt Bookfair

AN UNKNOWN British writer has been awarded what is claimed to be a record £420,000 advance for a first or second novel.

Robert Mawson, 41, a former pilot, who two weeks ago was resigned to signing on the dole, was offered the sum for his second book, *The Lazarus Child*, a thriller about a battle to save a child in a coma.

The bidding had started at £50,000 with various publishers competing. Patrick Janson-Smith, of Transworld's Bantam Press, was then so determined to acquire it that he doorstepped Mr Mawson's agent, Christopher Little, and made the offer. The previous record advance, of £357,000, also from Transworld, was for Nicholas Evans's *The Horse Whisperer*, now being made into a film starring Robert Redford.

Mr Little says that the sales of book rights throughout the world will take Mr Mawson's total earnings up to £2 million. Bantam in America has paid $1.4 million (£870,000) and Bertelsmann in Germany 1.65 million marks (£550,000). Other European publishers have also made offers.

Mr Mawson, who describes himself as an "obsessive writer", went to France to work on *The Lazarus Child* in 1995 after selling his share in a PR and advertising company. On returning to Britain he was unemployed. His first novel, published in 1994 by Little, Brown for a "minuscule" advance, was called *A Ship Called Hope* and sold only 2,600. The deal on his second book is, Mr Mawson says, "beyond his wildest dreams".

His first purchase would be a new word processor, as the last one blew up while printing out his manuscript. He says he would also be able to rent a place of his own and would abandon his claim for a council-tax rebate.

Mr Janson-Smith says that *The Lazarus Child* "rattles along like an express train. It's like watching a movie. You're so bound up in all the characters: You want to keep turning the pages." Hollywood studios have already been in touch.

☐ Mark Fisher, the Arts Minister, yesterday expressed sympathy for British publishers and booksellers who felt that their business was being threatened by sales on the Internet. "The root lies in copyright," Mr Fisher, who was visiting the Frankfurt Book Fair, said. The problem was the conflict between access and intellectual property, he added. The Publishers' Association, which co-ordinated his trip, is taking legal advice on Internet sales.

ALBAN DONOHOE

A few dollars more: Robert Mawson, whose book *The Lazarus Child* has sold in the US alone for $1.4 million

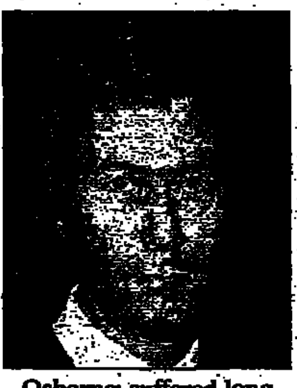
Private writings reveal Osborne's tortured soul

By Dalya Alberge
Arts Correspondent

FAR from being a confident and scathing iconoclast, the dramatist John Osborne was a deeply sensitive individual who suffered terrible feelings of failure.

The sensitive side of the original Angry Young Man will be revealed through notebooks and letters which his widow is allowing the world to read for the first time. The writer John Heilpern, who has been given access, says they offer a "window to his soul".

The material mostly appears in 50 exercise books, which he apparently turned to only in times of despair. They reveal the "black cloud" that hovered over the life of the man who wrote *Look Back In Anger*, the 1956 play that condemned middle-class smugness and changed the course of British theatre. Mr Heilpern said the writings would perhaps show him to be a more likeable man than biographies and even his autobiography have suggested.



Osborne: suffered long periods of self-doubt

As a critic once observed, Osborne (1929-94) raised grudge-bearing to an art form. Biographers have painted the writer of *The Entertainer* and *Inadmissible Evidence* as a prickly, hard-drinking womaniser. He likened his fourth wife, Jill Bennett, to Hitler and fired off poison-pen letters to critics.

But Mr Heilpern said the notebooks showed a different man. The contract for the book was revealed by the agent David Chalfant at the Frankfurt Book Fair. It will be published by Chatto and Windus.

Osborne's widow, Helen, was the playwright's fifth wife. Yesterday, she recalled that it had been impossible to cheer him up when he was down: "You learnt to live with it. It was what the Elizabethans called melancholia."

She said he genuinely believed he was a failure and could not be convinced otherwise: "I think it's common with writers — or good writers."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Families make plea for bodies

The families of four men lost when a fishing boat sank asked Glenda Jackson, the Shipping Minister, to help them to retrieve the bodies.

Relatives of the crew of the *Sapphire*, from Peterhead, Aberdeenshire, told her in an open letter: "No one has the ability to bring our loved ones back in this life, but you do have the power to make the attempt to bring them home. We would ask you to do so now."

Under a legal anomaly, the marine accident investigators probing the cause of the sinking have no responsibility to recover the bodies.

Ethnic recruiting

The RAF and the Royal Navy are expected to seek recruitment of more people from ethnic minorities. Lord Gilbert, a Defence minister, told the Lords that the two Services hoped to learn from the lead being given by the Army.

Girls admitted

Girls are to be admitted into one of the country's oldest boys' schools. From next September, girls will be able to study for A levels at Colchester Royal Grammar School, Essex, which was founded under Henry VIII.

Egrets wade in

Five pairs of little egrets have become what are believed to be the first of their species to nest in Britain. The wading birds, similar to small herons, have been spotted on Brownsea Island in Poole harbour.

Devon quakes

An earthquake measuring 2.8 on the Richter scale shook Devon, the largest in the area for 12 years. The epicentre was Totnes and tremors were felt 15 miles away. Up to 30 quakes of that size occur in Britain every year.

Reptile on loose

The RSPCA fears that a 1ft-long cayman — a tropical reptile similar to an alligator, popular as pets — may die unless captured soon. The cayman, seen at Pulborough, West Sussex, is believed to have been abandoned.

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Irish favourite keeps brains under wraps

A Belfast professor is likely to win the presidential race that has become a beauty contest, says **Martin Fletcher**

TWO weeks from today, a little-known Belfast law professor is expected to become Ireland's first northern President after one of the republic's more curious elections.

Mary McAleese, the 46-year-old Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University, can stand for the Irish presidency but may not vote, as she lives outside the republic. If elected, she would need the Government's permission to go home, as it would involve leaving the country. In addition, because the presidency is strictly above politics — its only real powers being to refer legislation to the Supreme Court or to refuse to dissolve the Dail — the campaign is issue-free. It is similar to having an election for the Queen of England.

The only hint of controversy has been a rival's charge that Dr McAleese is a covert Sinn Fein sympathiser. She has dismissed this as nonsense but could have done without an unsolicited endorsement from Gerry Adams yesterday.

There are four women candidates and one male. Unable to promise tax cuts or better schools, each is vying to prove that she or he is the spiritual successor of the caring, sharing, all-embracing Mary Robinson. It is a campaign filled with buzzwords such as "compassion", "openness" and "reaching out".

It has become a glorified beauty contest, almost literally. Many column inches have been devoted to the candidates' wardrobes and hairstyles, and my Dublin taxi driver planned to vote for Dr McAleese because "she's the best-looking bird".

Dr McAleese is certainly a striking figure, but it is her formidable intellect that has propelled her from a Roman Catholic ghetto in Belfast to the brink of Ireland's presidency. She is the eldest of nine children and a publican's daughter.

She studied law at Queen's and, at the age of 24, succeeded Mrs Robinson as Reid Professor of Criminal Law at Trinity College, Dublin. She married, had three children, worked briefly as an RTE television presenter, then shocked Ulster's Protestant establishment by beating David Trimble, now the Ulster Unionist Party leader, for the directorship of the Institute of Professional Legal Studies at Queen's.

Last month, in an even greater shock, Ireland's ruling Fianna Fail party ditched Albert Reynolds, the former Taoiseach, and gave its presidential nomination to the much more dynamic Dr McAleese. She was not even a party member.

Dr McAleese is a woman of strong convictions. She is a staunch anti-abortion Catholic and an enthusiastic nationalist whose critics call her combative and abrasive. None of those attributes was on display during a day spent hurtling round the pretty market towns of Tipperary this week. Her intellect has, as one commentator put it, been put on "work to rule".

She celebrated World Rural Women's Day at an agricultural development centre, lunched at a police training school, toured workshops for disadvantaged youth and the mentally handicapped, and addressed a crowd in the square at Thurles and a rally at a traditional Irish arts community in Cashel. She promised a cool head and warm heart, an Ireland in which every person is "utterly valued and utterly respected", and a presidency that reflected a confident new Ireland rooted in traditional values.

BRIAN GAVIN

Mary McAleese, left, talks to Dilly Barry, right, in a shop at Thurles during her whistlestop tour of Tipperary

Dr McAleese's rivals are no laggards when it comes to caring and compassion. Mary Banotti, the 58-year-old single mother who is the Fine Gael candidate, was a nurse in North America and Africa before becoming an MEP and champion of good causes. She is the grand-niece of Michael Collins, the legendary father of the IRA, which gives her a certain cachet.

Adi Roche, the 42-year-old Labour candidate, is known as the Angel of Chernobyl for her pioneering work as head of the Chernobyl Children's Project. Her campaign began poorly when some employees labelled her management style as Stalinist.

Rosemary Brown, who as Dana won the 1970 Eurovision Song Contest, is the champion of American-style family values. Her manifesto promises that as President she would "still be Dana, wife and mother, one of the people, standing for the people".

Derek Nally, an independent who will presumably win the misogynist vote by default, is a former police officer who exposed wrongdoing in the Garda and founded a group called Victim Support.

Dr McAleese's northernness does not seem to worry Irish voters, although some Unionists would see her election as threatening. The latest *Irish Times* poll gives her 32 per cent support, eight points more than Mary Banotti, with the three others far behind.

Killing uncovers Dublin trade in black prostitutes

By AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

IRISH police are clamping down on a growing trade in black prostitutes coming from Britain to offer exotica to Irishmen.

Asian and African women from Britain are being set up in Dublin city centre apartments and men, attracted by small ads for "black beauties" and "Asian delights" are paying up £150 an hour for their services, six times more than they would for an Irish prostitute.

The extent of the vice trade was unknown until the murder of Belinda Pereira, whose inquest was adjourned in Dublin yesterday.

Ms Pereira, 27, was one of a growing number of British prostitutes travelling to Dublin twice or three times a month to cash in on the city's boom in weekend tourism. It is believed that she was on her second trip to the Irish capital when she was bludgeoned to death last Christmas. Originally from Sri Lanka, her dark features would command high prices in Dublin.

The police believe that about ten Irishmen are organising the trade, with more than 100 women regularly travelling from Britain.

Ms Pereira and a friend became involved in the trade after answering an advertisement placed in a London magazine.

The Gardai first suspected that Ms Periera, from Morden, South London, had been murdered by her pimp, a 31-year-old man from Tipperary, but they now believe it was a frenzied attack by a client. They admit they have few clues about her killer.

One senior source said: "It is very difficult because these women want to leave as few traces as possible. They come over here, work for a week, then vanish. They go home, have a rest and come back again. The only people they know are their pimps and the other English women doing the same thing."

The Gardai are still interviewing British and Irish prostitutes to try to trace men with a history of violence against prostitutes, an increasing number of whom are drug addicts. Surveys show, however, that only about 40 per cent of the estimated 600 prostitutes working in Dublin report violence or threats by clients, rendering it likely that the killer will never be found.

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Labour must put national need before party interests

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The Blair Government is challenging the traditional workings of Whitehall in ways that Margaret Thatcher never did. That tension underlies the simmering discontent among many senior civil servants about the way policy is made and presented.

The departure of eight heads of information since the election is a symptom of this malaise, but it is only part of a broader story. Labour came into office determined to implement the same tight discipline that it applied so successfully in opposition.

That involved a closed style of policymaking in which decisions were taken by a tight circle round the offices of Tony Blair and Gordon Brown. Other spokesmen were involved when necessary. New policy initiatives were leaked/floated, often on an unattributable and thus deniable basis, without any real collective discussion. These habits have been transferred to office.

The culture of government is different, relying on deliberation, consultation and acceptance that Parliament should be informed first. So Whitehall eyebrows have been raised when — as was shown in the television documentary about Mr Brown and the Treasury ten days ago — policy is decided by a a small, largely political group and selected journalists are briefed on the details.

Some permanent secretaries have complained about the recent leaking to Sunday newspapers of the proposed "fine" on the Defence Ministry and transfer of the money to the NHS budget.

That is more important than the friction with information officers, where the arguments are mixed. Labour's complaint that many information officers had become too passive and reactive is partly justified.

Some became worn down by the battles of the late Major years, leaving Tory ministers exposed. *Alastair Campbell was right to* argue recently that heads of information should be involved from the start in the development and design of policy.

Some heads of information had been long-serving and, in some cases, long in the tooth. So changes were inevitable, indeed desirable. But eight departures is more than a coincidence.

Jonathan Haslam, in Downing Street for the end of the Major era and at the Education Department since the election, was at pains yesterday to stress his good relations with David Blunkett and the attractions of his new job in the City. But *in other cases there have been* personality clashes as ministers and advisers have openly criticised press officers.

Problems have emerged over the dividing line between Government and party, between the fair and impartial presentation of policy and advancing Labour's interests. Some ministers and their advisers, whose only experience has been in opposition, seem unaware of this distinction and have expected press officers to operate as Labour's press officers did before the election.

In the past, an informal division of labour has existed between the Government Information Service explaining decisions and special advisers to ministers providing the partisan "spin" which civil servants *cannot and should not do.*

The lines can never be precise and it makes sense for Mr Campbell and others in Downing Street to become special advisers rather than civil servants, as their predecessors were. Sir Robin Butler, the outgoing head of the Home Civil Service, has set up a review on the work of information officers, and the issue should be examined by the Public Administration Committee of the Commons, which is shortly to decide its programme. A new concordat is needed if charges of politicisation are to be answered.

After complaining for so long about the way the Tories ran Whitehall, Labour needs to understand that the interests of Government and party are not always the same. The job of civil servants is to ensure that the Government is successful, not that Labour is re-elected.

PETER RIDDELL

Writing on wall for Whitehall press machine

Angry ministers are giving civil servants a rough ride over their publicity failures, writes **Andrew Pierce**

Alastair Campbell's media strategy has caused problems for civil servants such as Jonathan Haslam, right

WITHIN hours of Tony Blair's new Cabinet ministers taking up office a purge of the upper echelons of the Whitehall information service was inevitable. The Prime Minister's publicity-hungry lieutenants had a rude awakening *from the election victory.*

They had anticipated a seamless transition to the front pages of the media anxious for their first ministerial pronouncements. It was not to be.

They protested bitterly, privately and increasingly publicly, about the Government Information Service which for two decades had worked in relative harmony with the previous Tory administrations.

The Labour Party in Opposition regarded the Tories' public relations operation with contempt. On May 2 they *discovered why it was so poor.*

The first to complain was Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, who called his Whitehall press team together after one dismal press conference. He bawled them out and complained he had never been so badly prepared. In Harriet Harman's south London home, Sunday morning breakfast became an unhappy experience as stories which the Social Security Secretary felt she should have featured in or at least known about were spread over the front pages.

It was a far cry from Opposition. At the first scent of trouble the *media monitoring* unit at Millbank Tower, the fiefdom of Peter Mandelson, Labour's high priest of spin, would alert the party leadership.

Each Shadow Cabinet member would be paged. The politician most involved would be tracked down, told the line to take, and what to expect in the first editions of *daily or Sunday newspapers.*

In Government the early warning system failed to operate. Ministers complained about being telephoned by journalists for reactions to stories they had not been told were breaking. Used to being told in advance who was on lunchtime news programmes, they despaired at discovering the briefing note in their red boxes when they returned home the same night — often 12 hours later.

> ❝The unit has been dubbed the Ministry of Truth by sceptical civil servants❞

The first to fall foul of the new regime was Andy Wood, the veteran director of information at the Northern Ireland Office who modelled himself on Bernard Ingham, Margaret Thatcher's press secretary.

Mr Wood compounded his sins in the eyes of the new administration by going on holiday during the Loyalist marching season. He was told bluntly: "There is a lack of personal chemistry with Dr Mowlam [Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary]." Mr Wood, a veteran of 14 years for the NIO, was given gardening leave.

Liz Drummond, the veteran head of the Scottish Office, was also an early casualty. Relations had never been good with Michael Forsyth, the Tory incumbent, but her hopes of a renaissance under the new administration rapidly evaporated.

Ms Drummond clashed with Brian Wilson, the minister of state, a journalist by profession, who insisted on writing all his own press releases.

She complained bitterly to journalists that she could not reveal policy decisions without first referring to Downing *Street. She took the flak for the* initial bumpy ride for the "Yes Yes" campaign for the Scottish Parliament.

By the end of the first month in office an unofficial war had been declared and ministers had resorted to their old habits. They turned each day to a daily bulletin prepared by Labour's monitoring unit, which charted daily presentation of policy in the media.

At the Treasury, which in the eyes of Downing Street is one of the few ministries to function properly, Jill Rutter, a *mainstream* civil servant who worked with John Major when he was Chief Secretary, moved back to policy work.

Much of her job was taken by Charlie Whelan, who was Mr Brown's personal press officer in Opposition. She made little attempt to conceal her feelings at her leaving *party when she declared:* "Just like the Princess of Wales this marriage was getting a little crowded."

By the beginning of July anonymous briefings began to appear in the media about ministerial disillusionment with the GIS. Mike Granatt, its head told a meeting of department heads that a drastic action was needed to counter the impression that they were not matching the skills of the Millbank army.

It came two weeks later. Whitehall was ordered to set up a media monitoring unit modelled on Labour's slick public relations operation. In a ground-breaking initiative press officers seconded from each government department would work in a team to record, analyse and, if necessary, rebut almost every item of news about policy in the *media.*

The unit has been dubbed the Ministry of Truth by sceptical civil servants. It will be operational by the end of the month. Mr Granatt, is officially in charge, but Mr Blair's chief press adviser Alastair Campbell is taking a keen interest. It was another famous victory for the Labour propaganda team.

But still the purge continued. *In* the same week it was disclosed that the information department at the Ministry of Defence was being restructured. Gill Samuel the head for five years, was moved internally. It emerged days later that George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, had complained bitterly to colleagues and Labour officials that he had become the "forgotten man of British politics".

Jean Caines, who was deputy press secretary at Downing Street under Bernard Ingham, is taking early retirement from the Department of Trade and Industry after falling out with Nigel Griffiths, the Consumer Affairs Minister, when he failed to answer with sufficient vigour and rigour charges levelled by the DTI about his shareholdings which forced him to withdraw from a Government inquiry.

One of the most bitter departures was Steve Reardon, director of information at Social Security for 10 years, who was told Ms Harman had lost confidence in him. His exit came days after the press was briefed by her officials that she intended to take the full Cabinet minister's pay rise last month. But halfway through the night Ms Harman changed her mind. He went within days.

At the end of September Mr Campbell vented the frustration of Cabinet ministers in a letter circulated to all Whitehall press offices. It was typically blunt warning to "raise their game".

Jonathan Haslam became the biggest fish to fall foul of the new regime yesterday after a clash with Stephen Byers, the Minister for School Standards. Many of the ones who *have gone, or the others who* fear they could be next, envy Richard Lehnert a chief press officer at the Welsh office, who was close to William Hague when he was Welsh Secretary and moved on at the election. He saw the writing on the wall and quit before he was pushed.

Ethics watchdog a veteran of press conduct

BY VALERIE ELLIOTT
WHITEHALL EDITOR

THE appointment yesterday of Sir Patrick Neill, QC, to succeed Lord Nolan as the public standards watchdog, marked the end of a determined search to find a prominent legal figure who was independent of party politics.

It is understood that his name was put forward by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg. Sir Patrick, who will become a life peer, will receive £500 a day for the post as chairman of the Committee on Standards in Public Life. He expects to work two or three days a week over 40 weeks.

Sir Patrick has spoken out against the growing power of the European Court of Justice, but his Eurosceptic views were deemed irrelevant to the post. He has tasted controversy; during his chairmanship of the Press Councilhe was accused by the late Sir James Goldsmith, in an open letter to 120 MPs, of impugning the *impartiality of the council.*

Sir James claimed that the council had decided in favour of a Granada employee who worked on *World in Action* at a time when Sir Patrick had represented the television company and programme in a legal action.

A devout Anglican and family man, Sir Patrick has been married to Caroline for 43 years and they had six children. One, Matthew, a barrister in his 20s, was killed in a car crash four years ago.

Sir Patrick was the first *chairman of the Council* for the Securities Industry and was asked by Margaret Thatcher to lead an inquiry into regulation at Lloyd's.

He is an independent director of Times Newspaper Holdings.

Sir Patrick: lawyer and churchman

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RSPCA demands ban on use of deadly driftnets

Dolphins and whales are among species devastated by 'barbaric' practice, reports Kathryn Knight

THE RSPCA called yesterday for a ban on the use of driftnets by British fishermen, saying that they were devastating marine life. Species of dolphin, whales, leatherback turtles and blue shark were among those being brought close to extinction by the nets, which trapped fish by their gills and left them to die, it said.

While most European countries have banned driftnets, Britain, Ireland and France still use them in the northeast Atlantic, Baltic and Mediterranean to catch tuna and swordfish. The RSPCA wants a full ban before the start of the fishing season next year.

At the launch of an RSPCA report on driftnets, John Baker, a marine expert from Liverpool University, said that the fish died slow and agonising deaths, while those that escaped lived with terrible injuries or were doomed to an eventual lingering death.

"They die from a process known as dry drowning. Their larynx closes so they are unable to inhale water, and asphyxiate. It can take hours before death occurs, especially with larger species," Dr Baker said.

"We know they often struggle violently, from the amount of net that gets caught round their bodies, which can result in terrible injuries. We have seen dolphin and other fish with broken bones, broken beaks and severe cuts to their head, flippers and dorsal fin.

"Those who escape live with the lingering pain of these terrible injuries. If we could see this taking place in front of our eyes, such a method of slaughter would be considered barbaric torture."

Helen McLachlan, senior wildlife officer for the RSPCA, said that while the length of driftnets had been restricted to 2.5 kilometres since 1992, this was enough to devastate the marine population. "Only total prohibition is the answer," she said.

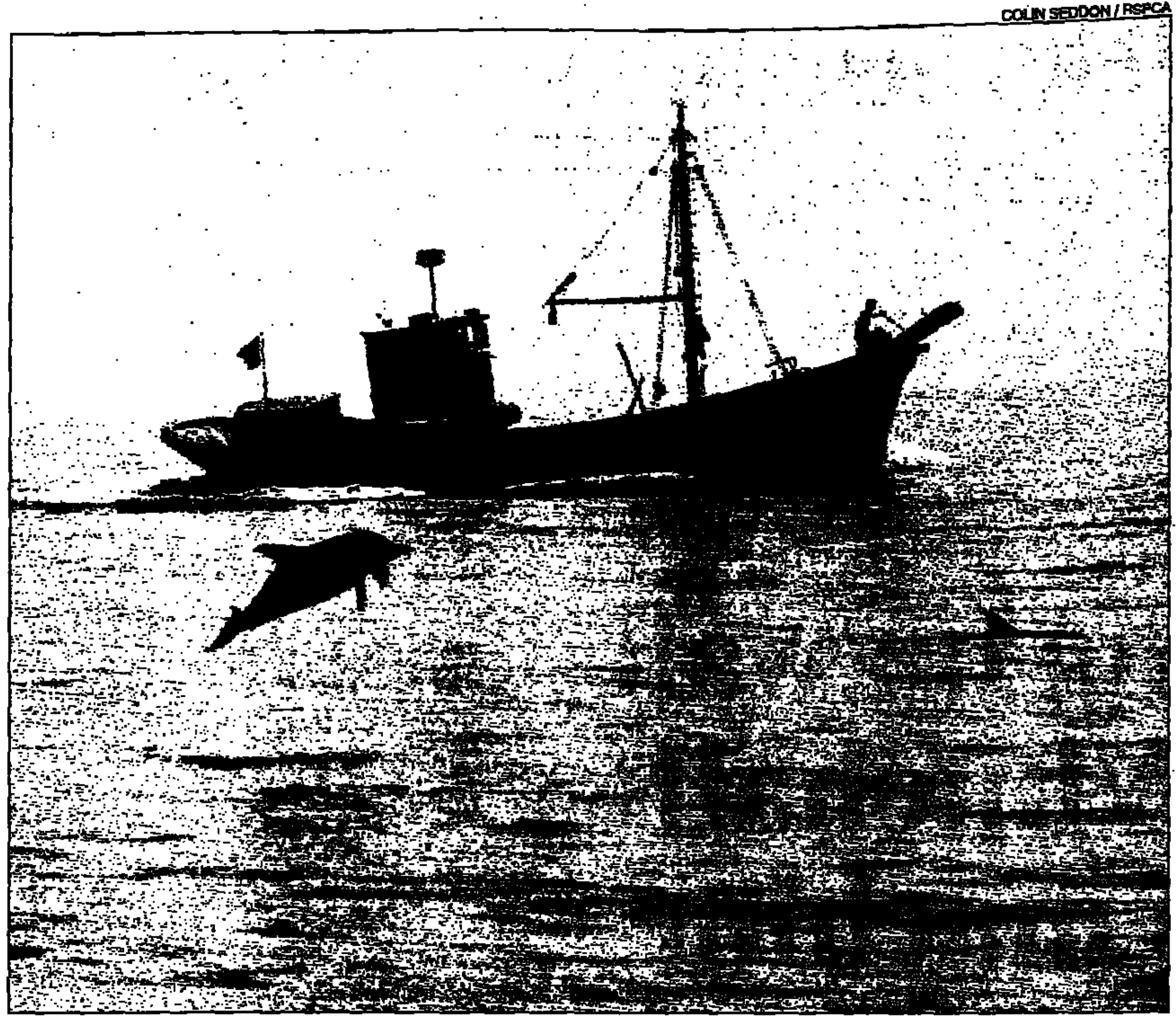
Driftnets, known as "walls of death", are placed near the surface to catch fish found in the open seas, such as herring, mackerel and pilchard. The synthetic material used means the nets are invisible to other marine life too. Independent studies of British and French driftnet vessels showed that dolphins and porpoises were being caught in potentially unsustainable numbers.

Research on more than 27 per cent of the French fleet revealed they had caught 48 species unintentionally, including five types of whale, four species of dolphin and two species of turtle.

"It is devastating in terms of environmental welfare," Ms McLachlan said. "The striped dolphin, which lives in the northeast Atlantic, is threatened with extinction if driftnetting continues."

She agreed that fishermen would have to be compensated but said there were more targeted methods that could prove more economic. The launch of the report was attended by the Labour MP Ian Cawsey, who has asked the Fisheries Minister Elliot Morley to support a ban when European counterparts meet this month.

COLIN SEDDON / RSPCA



Dolphins leaping near a fishing vessel: driftnets are invisible to them and other creatures, such as whales

Rare sea anemone becomes extinct

By Nick Nuttall
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

A TINY British sea anemone, found in only one location, has been declared extinct by conservationists. Ivell's sea anemone was discovered in Wide Water lagoon, Shoreham, West Sussex, in 1973 by Richard Ivell, a zoology student at Oxford University who was studying shellfish.

It was declared a new species by Richard Manuel, also of Oxford, in the *Journal of Natural History* in 1975. But a thorough survey carried out in September by Robert Irving, a consultant marine biologist for the World Wide Fund for Nature, has failed to find any trace of it.

Callum Rankine, habitats and species officer for WWF, said yesterday: "This is a sad day for British conservation, it does not bode well for the future to lose such a rare species."

The survey of the lagoon was carried out as part of the Government's Biodiversity Challenge to conserve wildlife.

Coral reefs being ruined by sewage and over-fishing

By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

HUMAN activity is destroying coral reefs all over the world, the first global survey has shown.

Once-common species such as lobsters are now rare, while edible cucumbers and fish such as groupers are also declining. Many reefs show evidence of damage, with broken coral and the growth of algae fed by sewage.

The survey was carried out by 100 marine scientists and 750 recreational divers, who surveyed more than 250 reefs in 30 countries between June 15 and August 31 this year. The divers were asked to look out for easily-recognisable species such as the lobster or the humpback wrasse, to give an indication of the effect of fishing.

First results of the study, Reef Check 1997, show that lobsters, once abundant on reefs throughout the world, were absent from 81 per cent of the reefs studied. From 179 reefs in the Indian and Pacific oceans, only 25 lobsters were found, and 11 of those were at a single reef in an Indonesian marine reserve.

Elizabeth Wood of the Marine Conservation Society said that no lobsters were found in the Seychelles. "Valuable shells such as the giant triton have also been over-collected as souvenirs." The results of the project were released yesterday at at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Gregor Hodgson, the co-ordinator, said: "Coral reefs are the rainforests of the sea. They are . . . a storehouse of billions of dollars worth of genetic material for drugs and an important factor in coastal protection. They are a tourist attraction for seven million sport divers and a source of food."

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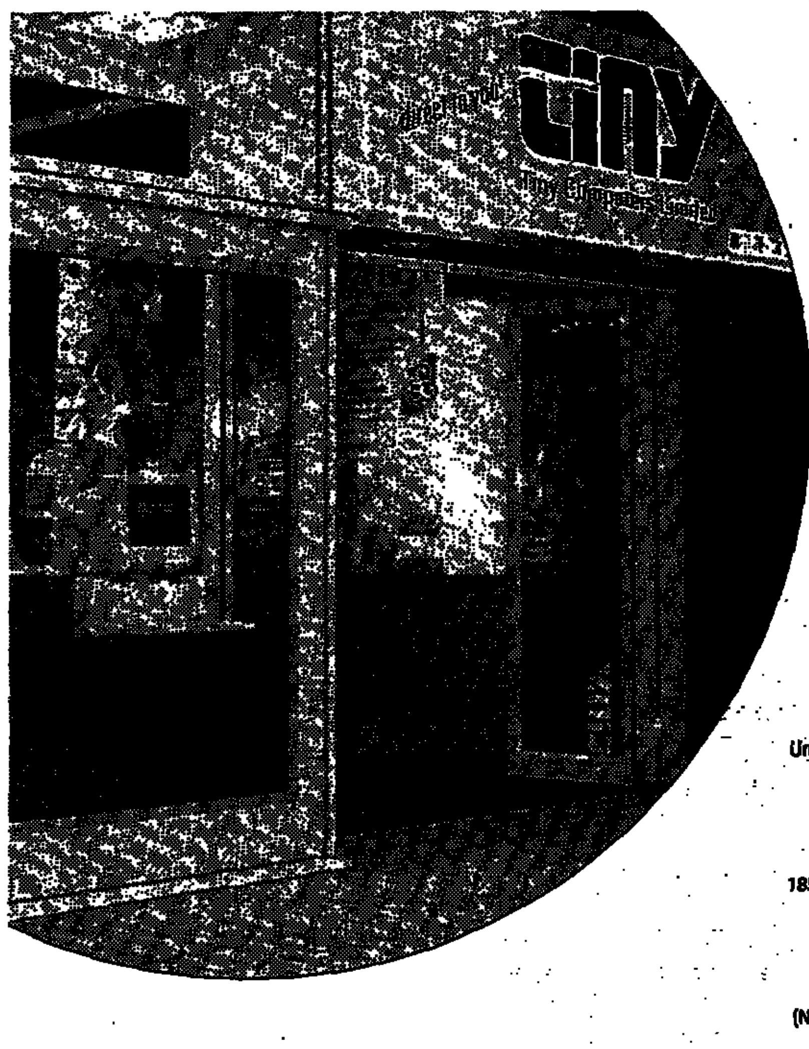

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Turkey accused after air scare

Nicosia: Athens accused Turkey of Cold War tactics yesterday after a military transport plane carrying the Greek Defence Minister was buzzed by Turkish warplanes over the Aegean for the second time in three days (Michael Theodoulou writes). Akis Tsohatzopoulos was on his way to Crete from Cyprus where he had been watching over joint wargames by Greek and Greek Cypriot forces which Turkey had branded a "provocation".

Greek journalists travelling with him said the C130 Hercules shuddered violently in the slipstream of four Turkish F16s, reportedly chased away by eight Greek F16s. "Mr Tsohatzopoulos's first comment was that Turkey was now employing Cold War tactics," a Defence Ministry official said. Greece has accused Turkey of massive airspace violations in recent days.

Jews held in inquiry on bomb supply to Arabs

From Christopher Walker in Jerusalem

TEN Jewish residents of Jerusalem have been arrested for allegedly supplying explosives to Palestinians for use in terrorist attacks against Jewish targets in Israel and the occupied territories.

Israeli security sources said that the case was one of the biggest of its kind in which a ring of Jews had been found apparently supplying weaponry to Palestinian extremists to enable them to continue their terror campaign designed to sabotage the 1993 Israeli-Palestinian peace accord.

A Palestinian journalist from the occupied West Bank, who asked not to be identified, said last night: "This case is just the tip of the iceberg. It is common knowledge in the West Bank and Gaza Strip that a great many of the weapons used by Hamas and other militant Palestinian groups are acquired from Jews — either on the criminal black-market or from ordinary soldiers who want to make a quick buck."

The journalist added: "The Israelis have far greater access to weaponry than the Palestinians and many of those who sell to the Arabs do not care what it is going to be used for just as long as they get their money. Common items such as an AK47 assault rifle or a pound of explosive have a going price which is widely known." Israelis enjoying the first day of the eight-day Feast of Tabernacles — the annual religious holiday commemorating the 40 years spent in the wilderness by the Jews after their exodus from Egypt — were shocked when news of the police round-up of the Jewish suspects was broadcast by Israel radio.

The radio disclosed that the ten unnamed Jews being held had been arrested on charges of supplying high explosives and detonators, used legally in construction work in quarries, to what the report described as "hostile elements".

The radio report said that when the suspects were arrested they were in possession of a haul of 440lb of explosives, 55 detonators and large quantities of detonator caps, which it is alleged they were preparing to sell to Palestinians, who were not publicly identified.

Police investigators believe that the ring sold explosives obtained from quarries both inside Israel and in the West Bank to Palestinians in the occupied territories.

They are linking the arrests of the suspected Jewish arms dealers with a haul of explosives made last week just before the onset of Yom Kippur, the annual holy Jewish Day of Atonement, when two Palestinians from the West Bank city of Hebron were arrested in a car carrying 110lb of hidden explosives, 25 detonators and 15 yards of fuse.

The late arrest of the two Arabs, caught after a car chase and named as Abdul Abu Sneineh, 36, and Yassin Abu Hadid, 23, was one cause of a maximum terrorist alert sounded throughout Israel and the occupied territories over the Yom Kippur period.

One high-ranking police officer told the *Yediot Aharonot* daily newspaper after military censorship that had been imposed on reporting of the car find was lifted: "The two Palestinians had in their possession an amount of explosives that could have sent the Dizengoff Centre [Tel Aviv's main indoor shopping arcade] sky-high."

The alleged uncovering of such a significant Jewish-run arms-supply ring has posed a serious problem for the Israeli prison authorities if the arrested men should receive long sentences.

"They could hardly put them inside with Palestinian terrorists," the Palestinian journalist said. "And if they put them among ordinary Israeli criminals, they would probably be torn limb from limb."

DAOUD MIZRAHI / EPA

Two Jews handcuffed after their arrest on charges of selling explosives to Palestinians

Greer claims role of mothers 'taken over by business'

From Roger Maynard in Sydney

THE sexual revolution has desexed rather than liberated women, Germaine Greer told a writers' festival in her home city of Melbourne.

In what the media called a "provocative speech that mixed gender theory, graphic sexual imagery and a touch of prudishness", Ms Greer, 58, said women had become enslaved by a "penetration culture" that venerated the penis and assaulted the prestige of motherhood.

The author of *The Female Eunuch*, speaking on "Sex, Angst and the Millennium", added: "The assault on the prestige of the mother has been more successful than any feminist strategy. Our culture does not think of woman as makers of men. Motherhood is not venerated among us ... feminist strategies were coopted into the marginalisation of the mother, who now functions primarily as a scapegoat. She can claim no credit for the successes of her children, but must bear the blame for all of their failures.

"The role of nurturer has been assumed by organisations and by business; the mother is an obstacle in the path of their complete control of the child. She must act as their agent in the socialisation of the child or be found wanting.

"Every day politicians attack mothers for being young or single or irresponsible. Advertisements show middle-aged women as too stupid to understand the directions on a detergent packet or smiling half-wittedly at pre-packaged foods or yackety-yacking on the telephone or dematerialising as the first sips of liberating lager slide down the male throat."

Ms Greer added: "In 1969 women had the right to say no without apology — what they didn't have was the right to say yes. Now they have a duty to say yes to whatever their partners may desire.

"Little girls begin learning penetration culture from girls' magazines that tell them how to dress and make themselves up in order to look really sexy. The clothing they are supposed to wear emphasises their frail vulnerability and their availability.

"The advertisements in such teen-mags are for clothes, make-up, hair dye, condoms and pregnancy kits. This is the culture that the liberated young women of the 1990s are being inducted into."

Kitten woman, page 19

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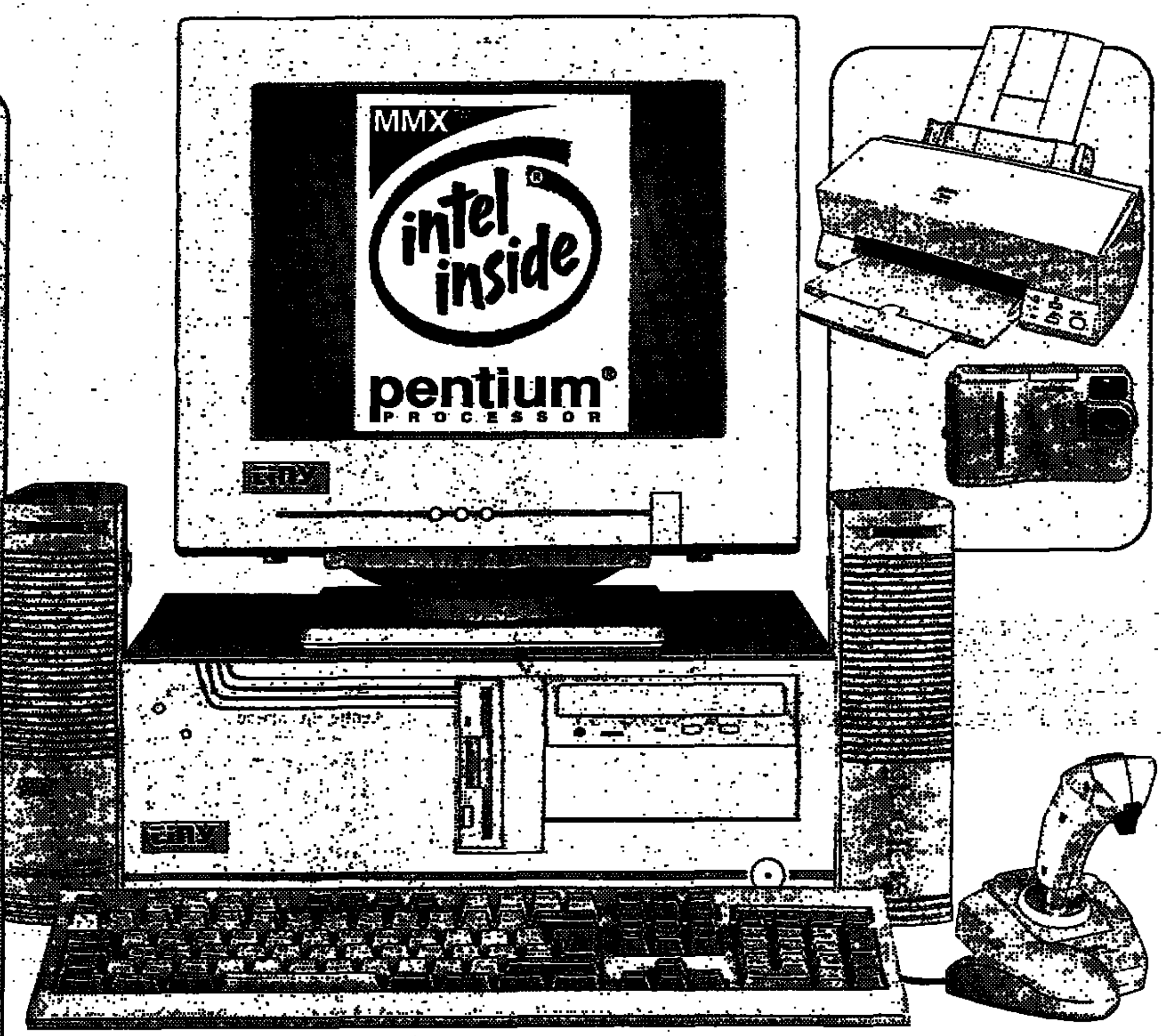

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French fugitive wallowing in Bahamas luxury

Former Gaullist official fled bribes inquiry for life in the Caribbean sunshine, writes **Ben Macintyre**

ONE of France's most wanted men, a former official of President Chirac's Gaullists implicated in an illegal party-funding scandal, has been traced to Paradise Island in the Bahamas, where he has been living the life of a millionaire for more than two years.

Didier Schuller, former director of public building works in the Hauts-de-Seine regional council outside Paris, vanished in March 1995 after he was questioned by magistrates about alleged bribes for the Gaullist RPR party in exchange for construction contracts. An international arrest warrant was issued for M Schuller on charges of influence-peddling and misuse of public funds. He has been on the run since, though reportedly sighted in Israel, Argentina, Austria, Switzerland, Africa, the United States and even Paris.

Le Nouvel Observateur magazine tracked down M Schuller this week to the Bahamas, where he had taken luxurious refuge with his wife and two children under the assumed name Dellavalle. On October 2, a provisional arrest warrant was sent by Interpol to the Bahamas police, but before they could act M Schuller had disappeared again.

M Schuller's life on the run was not uncomfortable: he rented a large colonial house for £4,000 a month, sent his daughters to one of the most expensive schools in the Bahamas and regularly played golf with other expatriates. M Schuller is seen as a key witness in the housing scandal that has dogged the RPR party for years, and his opulent lifestyle and uncanny knack of avoiding arrest has raised suspicions that he may be enjoying protection from senior officials who would prefer him not to return to France and testify to investigators.

Le Nouvel Observateur reported that the numerous false sightings may be a campaign of disinformation orchestrated by members of the RPR. One magistrate said: "It seems impossible they were not benefiting from complicity in high places to have managed to maintain the secrecy of their exile for so long." M Schuller's latest vanishing act, leaving behind his green Range Rover, a 50ft yacht and a new high-speed fishing boat, would also seem to indicate he was tipped off.

Even if he is found, getting M Schuller back to France could prove difficult, since the Bahamas has no formal extradition treaty with France and suspects are usually only extradited on murder or rape charges.

While several notable politicians may be happy to see M Schuller remain in exile, the fugitive himself has shown signs of wanting to return home. In a letter to investigating magistrates, leaked to *L'Express* magazine earlier this year, M Schuller said he was "fed up with being treated as the scapegoat for an affair in which I was only an instrument". M Schuller wrote that he was "ready to help" the investigators if "the authorities are prepared to hear my case without prejudice".

The fugitive Frenchman, who has reportedly boasted of having Fr35 million (£3.7 million) in various bank accounts, was spending up to £15,000 a month to maintain his lavish lifestyle in the Bahamas, according to *Le Nouvel Observateur*. The source of his wealth is likely to be the first thing that magistrates will want to ask him about.

Nostradamus: "It's the end of the world after quakes three Fridays in a row"

'End of the world' quake fear stirred by Nostradamus

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

ANOTHER powerful tremor hit Umbria yesterday, as rumours spread throughout Italy that "the Big One" would strike today, in accordance with the prophecies of Nostradamus.

The first double earthquake hit central Italy three weeks ago, killing 11 people and damaging medieval frescoes at Assisi, where thousands of homes have been evacuated. There have since been more than 2,000 tremors, six of them measuring more than four on the Richter scale.

On Tuesday a quake with its epicentre at Sellano, 20 miles from Assisi, was felt in Rome — where a baroque church with 18th-century frescoes suffered damage — and even as far south as Naples.

The epicentre of yesterday's tremor was also at Sellano, where the town centre has been almost completely destroyed. Rescue workers salvaged 12th-century archives from the town hall. Thousands of residents of Umbria and the Marche are living under canvas or in prefabricated homes. Seismologists remain baffled by the continuing tremors.

Vulcanologists from the Etna and Vesuvius areas have been called in to see if they can throw any light on the phenomenon. For many superstitious and increasingly nervous Italians, the quakes reveal "the hand of God", or at least of fate. "An earthquake obsession without end" was the headline in yesterday's *La Stampa*, which reported that people near the epicentre were "awaiting the end of the world".

Bookshops in Rome and Perugia have sold out of the prophecies of Nostradamus, the 16th-century astrologer, physician and adviser to Catherine de' Medici, who is said to have predicted that the end of the world would be presaged by quakes "on three Fridays in a row". The third and last quake — which according to Nostradamus would occur today — would be apocalyptic in scale, setting off a series of deaths and disasters. Psychologists said pre-millennial fears were becoming widespread. "We are living with fear," said *La Repubblica*.

The continuing quakes were giving rise to a national psychosis. Two psychologists from the University of Padua, Roberto Marino and Carlo Heinrich, said people in the quake zone suffered from psychological disorders, including loss of libido.

THE PROPHET OF DOOM

Nostradamus writes that Pisa, Sienna, Genoa, Modena, Nice and Malta will be destroyed.

"Blood and swords will rain on them like gifts. There will be fire, earthquakes and flood."

Communists in retreat after vote collapses

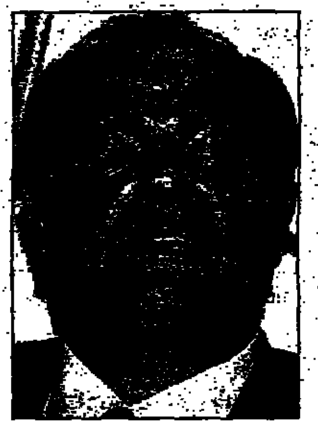
FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S once mighty Communist Party was in disarray yesterday after its humiliating climbdown in Parliament, the latest in a succession of failed attempts to muster a united opposition against the Kremlin.

Despite warnings over the past few weeks of a "hot autumn" of discontent, when the Communists and their Nationalist allies vowed to challenge President Yeltsin's rule, the opposition retreated without firing a shot in the first engagement of the political season.

Although the largest party in the Duma, the lower house of parliament, the Communists on Wednesday lost their nerve before a no confidence motion in the Government which they had earlier proposed. When it became clear that they would not be able to muster the necessary votes for the motion, they gratefully accepted a compromise from President Yeltsin.

It now seems doubtful that the no confidence motion, in its present form, will ever be put to the vote and to many minds the opposition seems to have been cowed by Mr Yeltsin's threat to call parliamentary elections.



Zyuganov: could face rebellion by hardliners

The debacle in the Duma has raised fresh questions about the leadership abilities of Gennadi Zyuganov, the lacklustre Communist Party leader, who could face a rebellion by hardliners when the party faithful gather for their congress tomorrow.

Already there are reports of splits within the ranks among the progressive members who want to see the Party reformed along the lines of socialist movements in Eastern Europe and the diehard Soviet fundamentalists who refuse any notion of compromise.

Aside from the ideological debate, there is a growing perception that the Communists have allowed themselves to be co-opted by the Government. Gennadi Seleznyov, the Communist speaker of the Duma, is regarded as having a overly cozy relationship with the Kremlin. Mr Zyuganov, who daily denounces the economic reform programme of the Government, was seen having an intimate dinner at an exclusive Moscow gentlemen's club the other night with Anatoli Chubais, the deputy Prime Minister who masterminded Russia's privatisation programme.

An opinion poll released yesterday revealed that 54 per cent of Russians believe the country has taken the wrong path for reform. However, an opinion poll at the weekend showed that if presidential elections were held today, Mr Zyuganov would get less than 20 per cent of the vote.

Row over reunion of Hitler veterans

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE most highly decorated soldiers and airmen of the Third Reich began a veterans' reunion in Bavaria yesterday and immediately triggered fierce controversy.

Social Democratic and Green politicians, Catholic activists and anti-fascist groups criticised Volker Rühe, the German Defence Minister, for allowing the Knight's Cross holders to visit an army infantry school as part of their annual get-together. "The tradition these gentlemen represent should not be brought into contact with a democratic army," the Greens said. The League of Anti-Fascists said many Knight's Cross veterans had engaged in extreme-right activities.

The Knight's Cross was Hitler's variant of the Iron Cross. It was supposed to be a grade above the Iron Cross First Class and one below the Grand Cross.

Renate Schmidt, leader of the Bavarian Social Democrats, called on the Defence Ministry, trying to revive military traditions, to scrap the event. "As far as I am aware, members of the Association of the Knight's Cross have had links with radical right-wing circles," she said in a letter to Herr Rühe.

THE TIMES/DILLONS FORUM

An evening with Paul Johnson

Readers of *The Times* are invited to hear Paul Johnson, distinguished journalist and historian, debate The Future of America with the *Newsnight* presenter Gavin Esler and the former Ambassador to the US, Lord Renwick, on *Monday October 20*. They will discuss America's role in the 21st century, its phenomenal success and its chances of staying at the top. The forum marks the publication of Paul Johnson's new book *A History of the American People* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson £25) and will be held at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 (concession £7.50) which includes £3 off the price of the book. There will be an opportunity for questions from the audience. Subject to demand this event will be interpreted by sign language.

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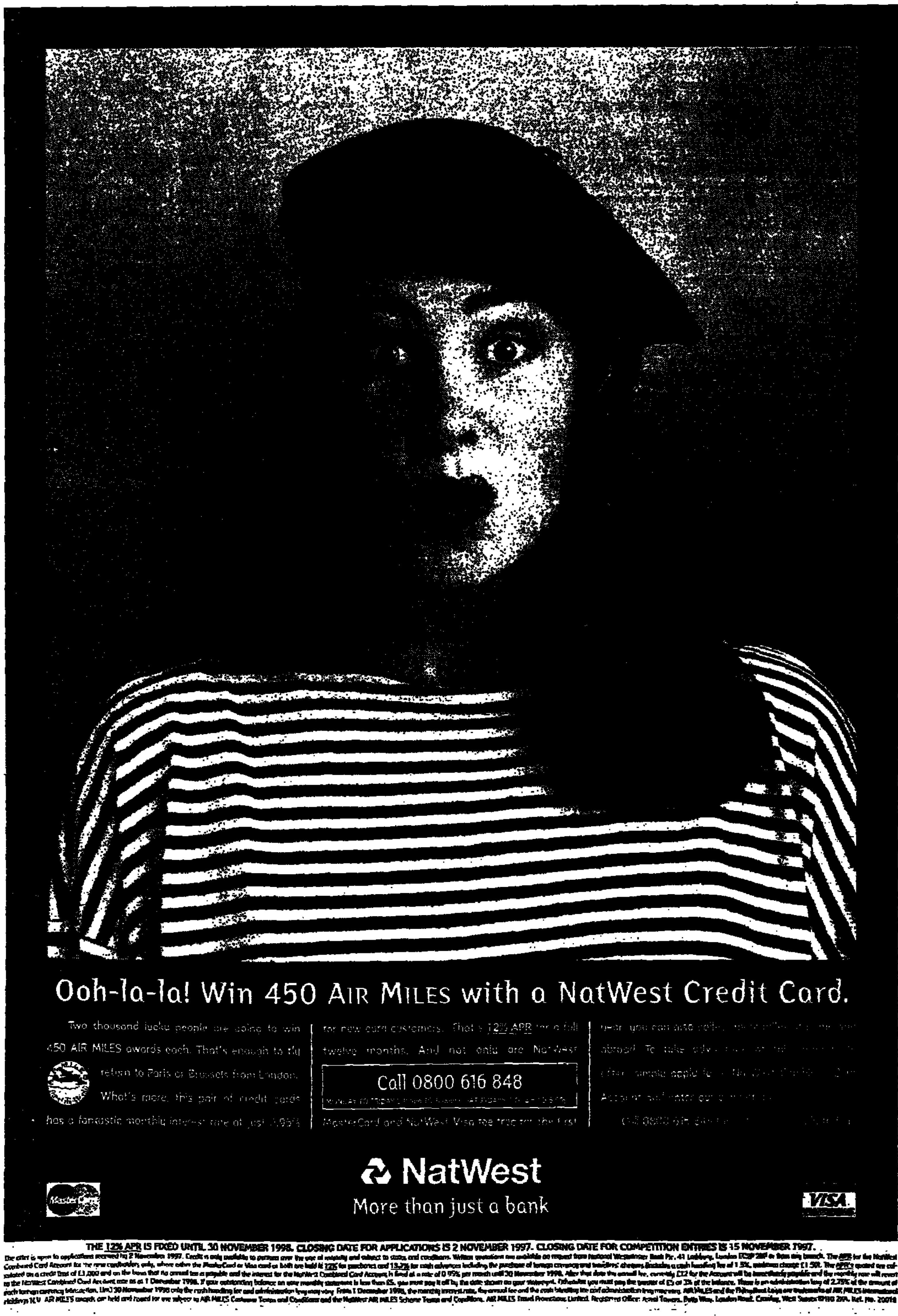

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Reno to work with FBI on funds scandal

From Tom Rhodes in Washington

JANET RENO, the US Attorney-General, has tried to appease Republican critics by promising not to close any part of her inquiry into fundraising by President Clinton or Vice-President Al Gore without prior FBI approval.

In what appeared to be an unprecedented sharing of power between the Justice Department and the FBI, Ms Reno said that no investigation of alleged irregular fundraising by the White House would be concluded without the joint sanction of herself and Louis Freeh, the bureau's director. Her decision came after the release of more embarrassing videotapes by the White House showing President Clinton at *ease with the most notorious* figures involved in Democratic fundraising for his re-election last year.

They included Asian connections from Mr Clinton's time as Arkansas Governor: James Riady, the Indonesian billionaire, John Huang, the top Democratic fundraiser who is at the centre of the controversy, and Charlie Trie, a restaurateur who later owned a multinational company. The President has maintained he had only a faint recollection of Mr Trie. In the videotape, however, Mr Clin*ton declares: "Soon it will be* 20 years since I had my first meal with Charlie Trie. At the time, neither one of us could afford the ticket to this dinner."

Months after the dinner, held in May 1996, the Democratic Party was forced to return more than $3 million (£1.8 million) in irregular foreign donations, in large part raised by Mr Trie and Mr Huang, whom Mr Clinton welcomes in other footage as "my good friend".

Although the 100 hours of extra film failed to show Mr Clinton soliciting funds on federal property, a violation of American election law, the widely televised pictures, combined with Republican attacks on Ms Reno, gave further momentum to the often complex and sluggish inquiry.

Johnny Chung, another key player who has claimed he handed a $50,000 cheque to Hillary Clinton's aides at the White House and was later granted an audience with Mrs Clinton, is seen receiving a hug from the President. Records show that this was just one of 49 visits Mr Chung made to the White House.

Ms Reno's decision to give joint authority to the FBI appeared to have failed in its aim to relieve pressure from Republican opponents in Congress, who viewed her move as a stalling tactic.

Reno, who attempted to appease Republican critics

Clintons revel in land of beef and tango

From Gabriella Gamini in Buenos Aires

PRESIDENT Clinton spent his first night in Buenos Aires in true Argentine style, *emerging at 10pm from* his hotel to visit the famous Las Lilas steak restaurant in a fashionable area by the port.

He and his wife, Hillary, were served the best of Argentine beef, salads and a selection of the country's top red wines. Afterwards the Clintons went to the Don Tango bar in the colonial district of San Telmo and watched a tango show. The Clintons took to the dance floor with some remarkable footwork.

Throughout the President's first visit to South American countries, he has been keen to abandon protocol. He allowed dozens of shantytown dwellers in Rio de Janeiro to shower him with hugs and kisses. On stepping from Air Force One in Buenos Aires, he received a bear hug from President Menem.

Yesterday Mr Clinton had official meetings with Señor Menem and government officials. He needs support for his proposal to create a free-trade zone in the Americas in the new millennium. Señor Menem said he shared the "Clinton dream", but no formal agreement was signed. The two leaders were due to sign accords on educational projects, the war on drugs, environmental protection and technological assistance.

During a speech at a ceremony in honour of General José San Martín, Argentina's most revered liberator, Mr Clinton said he had notified the US Congress to designate Argentina as a special ally outside Nato. This is in part a thank you for Argentina's participation in 16 UN peacekeeping missions and its sending of troops and two frigates to the Gulf War. But it is also a diplomatic pleasantry in recognition of Senor Menem's support.

The social agenda has seemed just as prominent as the political one. Mr and Mrs Clinton are due to attend a gala dinner at the Rural Society Club, hosted by Argentina's richest landowners. Mrs Clinton, who has discarded dresses for trouser suits for most of the tour, seems to have been trying to send a feminist message to traditionally macho societies.

It is possible that she is trying to avoid the peering lenses of photographers, who on her last visit to Brazil in 1994 caught a view of her underwear as she sat in a conference hall. The photograph, banned after complaints from the American Embassy, was used for some months in an advertising campaign for a Brazilian lingerie line.

Mrs Clinton had toured a Rio de Janeiro slum in 42C (107F) of tropical heat, wearing a thick red trouser suit. On arrival in Argentina hours later, she wore a large yellow coat over black trousers. Yesterday she wore a light blue full-length trouser suit.

She met yesterday Argentina's Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo, who are searching for the children of some of the 10,000 people who were tortured and disappeared during the military dictatorship between 1974 and 1982.

RICK WILKING / REUTERS

President Clinton hugs Pele after visiting a school for poor children founded by the football star, near one of Rio de Janeiro's shantytowns on Wednesday

Islam wedding for 10,000 couples

Washington: In his latest attempt to fill the vacuum of ethnic leadership in America, *Louis Farrakhan has* announced he will preside over the weddings of 10,000 couples in a multiracial ceremony here in 2000 (Tom Rhodes writes).

The controversial head of the Nation of Islam is one of the most powerful black voices in America. He made his announcement as he called yesterday for a Second World Day of Atonement to mark the *second year of the Million* Man March in Washington on October 16, 1995. He urged black Americans to remain at home as part of a reaffirmation of family commitment.

He also plans to renew the marriage vows of thousands of other couples at the millennial ceremony. "I hope to marry 10,000 new couples on that day, so that we may go *into the millennium* not black male, black female, but as a wholesome family with God at the centre."

He has also announced that he is helping black female activists organise a Million Woman March in Philadelphia in a fortnight.

WORLD SUMMARY

Lake life killed to save trout

Los Angeles: State officials have poisoned all the fish in Lake Davis, 150 miles north-east of San Francisco, to prevent the northern pike destroying the area's trout and salmon (Giles Whittell writes).

Residents of the town of Portola mounted a candle-lit vigil as three activists in wetsuits padlocked themselves to a buoy in an effort to stop the action. They were arrested. The lake will be restocked with 700,000 trout in about two months.

Singapore spill

Singapore: An empty Thai supertanker and a ship half its size collided in the Singapore Strait, causing one of the worst oil spills South-East Asia has seen. The Cyprus-registered tanker *Evoikos* spilt 25,000 tonnes of fuel oil after colliding with the supertanker *Orapin Global*. Australia, Japan and the United States have agreed to send equipment to hasten the clean-up. *(Reuters)*

Cut and run

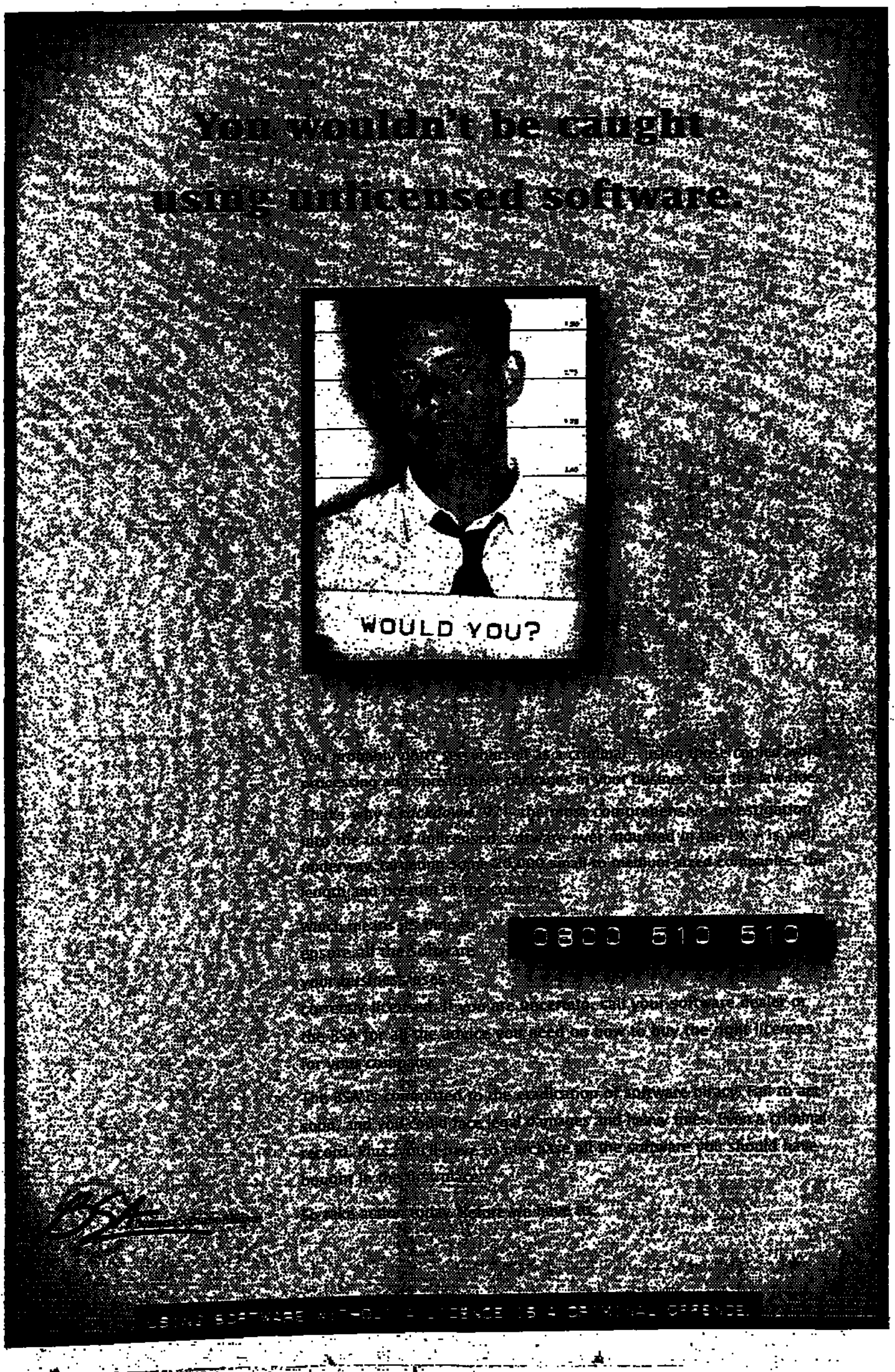
New York: A woman in Duluth, Minnesota, is suing her diabetic former fiancé, who she says duped her so her brother would donate his kidney (Tunku Varadarajan writes). *Richard McNutt broke off the* engagement two days after the transplant. The donor said: "I thought he wanted my sister's heart, but I now see he only wanted my kidney."

Safe investment

Bogotá: Colombian politicians earmarked £8.6 million of next year's £19.3 billion budget to buy themselves bullet-proof vests, armour-plated vehicles and bodyguards to confront a rising wave of rebel-led and drug-related violence. *(Reuters)*

Nobel accolade

Phnom Penh: Tun Channareth, a Cambodian anti-mine campaigner who lost both legs to an anti-personnel mine 15 years ago, will accept the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of the anti-landmine campaign, officials said. *(AP)*



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Angolan firepower eases ex-dictator's takeover in Congo

By Sam Kiley, Africa correspondent

DAVID GUTTENFELDER / AP

A member of the Cobra militia which, backed by Angola, defeated the forces of the elected President Lissouba in Brazzaville

THE *former Marxist military* dictator of Congo returned to power *yesterday after his troops swept* into Brazzaville, the capital, and Pointe Noire, the centre of the oil industry, with the help of Angolan government soldiers, tanks and jet fighters.

The swift victory of General *Denis Sassou-Nguesso was as* much a triumph for Angola, which *has secured the oil-rich enclave* of Cabinda from attacks by Unita, the Angolan rebel movement, as it was for General Sassou-Nguesso's Cobra militia. The Angolans and the militia swept into Pointe Noire on Wednesday evening, a day after *President Lissouba had lost the* capital in a surprise assault on his palace by the Cobras, backed up by Angolan MiGs.

"Today the war is over. We control all of the country and all major cities," Jean-Marie Tassoua, a *senior commander in the* Cobra militia, said by telephone on Wednesday evening. The civil war began in June when Mr Lissouba attempted to disarm the Cobra *militia; after that it degenerated* into a "Liberian scenario", in which drugged and drunken fighters dressed in drag to frighten their opponents.

Yesterday, bodies of alleged looters lay on the streets of Pointe *Noire while Angolan tanks* controlled key roads and the airport, *but the city was otherwise quiet.*

In Paris, the French Defence Ministry placed 300 paratroops on standby to evacuate the city and most foreigners were ordered to stay in their hotels or the French consulate until tensions eased.

Brazzaville, a city close to many French hearts since it was a headquarters of the Free French during the Second World War, has been reduced to rubble after months of indiscriminate shelling that also hit Kinshasa, the capital *of the neighbouring Democratic* Republic of Congo, formerly Zaire.

Mr Lissouba was reported to have fled in a helicopter to the Republic shortly before the fall of *Pointe Noire. In a French radio* interview he insisted that he was still the President because he had not been ousted in elections which were cancelled after the fighting broke out in June. He came to power after winning the elections against General Sassou-Nguesso in 1992.

France moved quickly yesterday to establish a good relationship with General Sassou-Nguesso, who had ruled Congo along Marxist lines while selling oil to Elf Aquitaine, the French petrochemical company, for 12 years.

"Sassou-Nguesso is the master of Brazzaville, and since his Congolese allies have occupied Pointe Noire without firing a shot, one can consider he is the man to talk to, to put into place a new democratic process," said Charles Josselin, the *French Development Aid Minister.*

Although France and the United States condemned publicly Angola's involvement in Congo, diplomats in the region said they were relieved that the war appeared to have come to a sudden end.

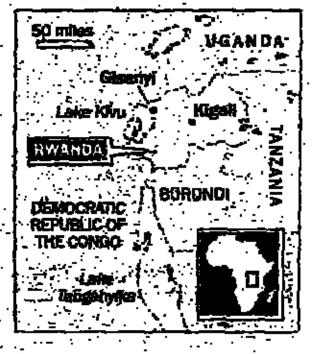
The collapse of Mr Lissouba's Government was partly due to the *lack of discipline of his forces, but* mainly because he had provided bases for Unita guerrillas to launch assaults inside Cabinda and the rest of Angola, provoking the *involvement of Angolan government* troops in the conflict.

Jonas Savimbi, the Unita leader, has been reluctant to implement Angola's peace accords and has enjoyed the use of bases outside the country to continue his struggle. *But in the past ten months he has* lost his key bases after the removal of President Mobutu in the former Zaire and now with the political demise of Mr Lissouba, his ally.

One Western diplomat in Kinshasa, commenting on the regional conflicts, said: "The prospects for peace in Angola look better every time Savimbi takes a knock."

Hutu night raids revive genocide fears in Rwanda

From David Orr
in Gisenyi, Rwanda



BLOODSTAINED rags and a wicker stretcher outside Gisenyi *hospital* show that yet another "war" victim has been brought down from the hills ringing this northwest Rwanda town by the border *with the Democratic Republic* of Congo, formerly Zaire.

This time a farmer from the Hutu majority has been injured in a machete attack. Those who took him to hospital say his assailants were from Mudende, a refugee camp holding about 12,000 ethnic Tutsis from Congo. "This is happening all the time now," says Celestin *Ndarasi, the hospital administrator.* "They are usually brought down in the morning after a night-time attack."

Soon afterwards comes *news* that 37 Tutsis were killed on Monday night at Arusha, a settlement for Rwandans who returned from refugee camps in Zaire shortly before the 1994 Rwandan genocide. They are said *to have been attacked by* Hutu militants and soldiers from the former Rwandan Army, themselves just back from Congo camps.

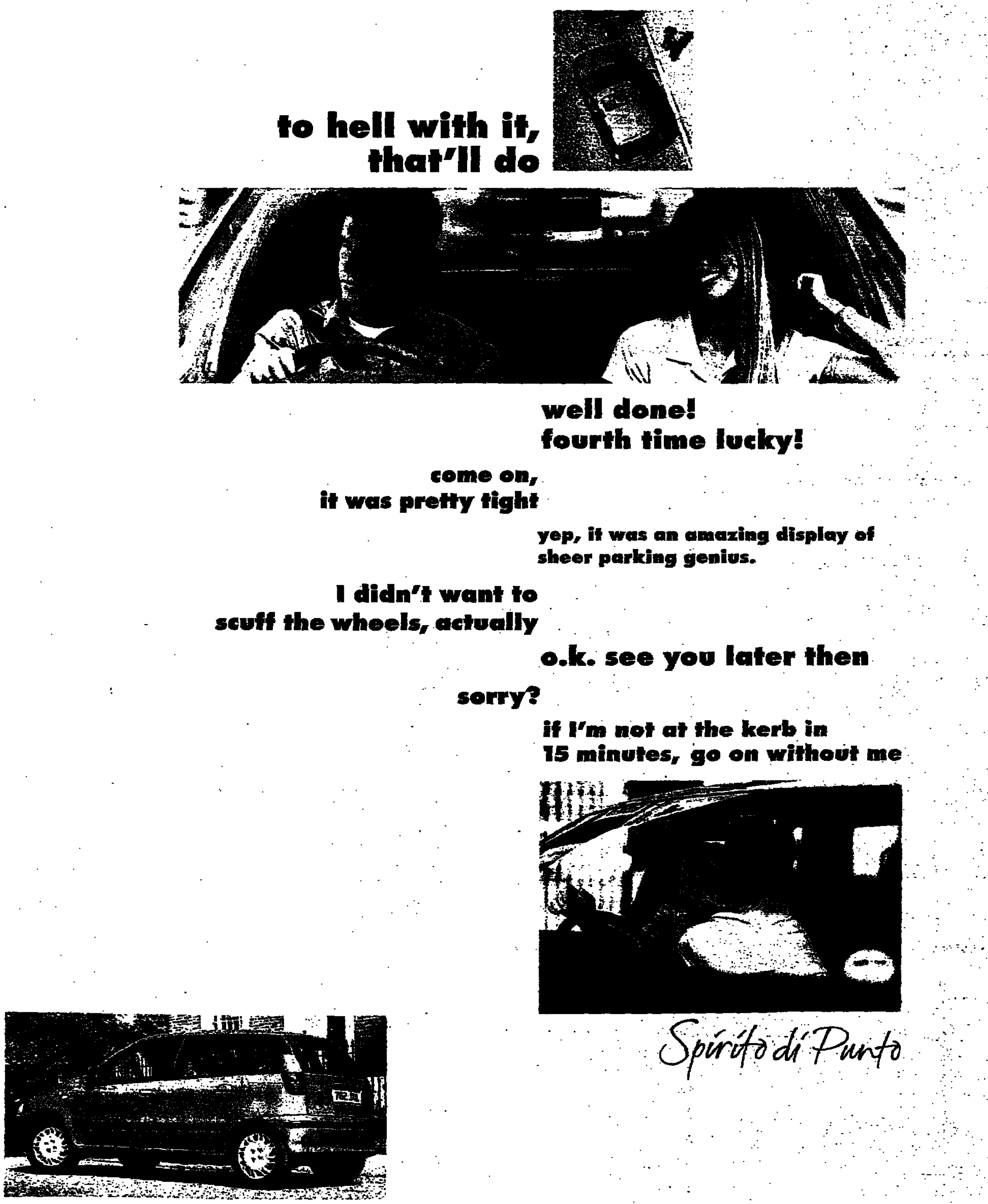
More than three years after the genocide that killed at least half a million people, mostly Tutsis, Rwanda is still locked in a cycle of murder and revenge. Laurent Kabila's Rwandan-backed victory in *Congo has not brought peace* to Central Africa; there is widespread unrest in eastern Congo and fighting has spilt over into Uganda.

Rwanda's Hutu extremists are back in business inside *their own country*, launching strikes from bases among the tree-lined *hills* that are a traditional stronghold. Gisenyi's inhabitants live in fear. One morning last week they awoke to the sound of machinegun fire and mortars coming from hills by the airport. Never before had *there been such a raid on* the town. And never before had they come in such large numbers; at least 1,000 were in the attack, according to the Rwandan Patriotic Army (RPA).

"We treated about 15 injured [RPA] soldiers here," says the hospital administrator. Asked if any injured rebels were brought in, he *smiles, then looks at the* ground. The inference is clear: this is a bloody war and few prisoners are taken. During May and June the RPA says it killed 1,800 "rebels" here. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Field Operations in Rwanda knows of only a dozen prisoners being taken.

An average of 1,000 Rwan*dans have died violent deaths* every month, according to UN officials, many of them unarmed civilians.

The Rwandan Government insists that the security situation is improving, but the *Tutsi-dominated* regime is fighting for its survival. Little quarter will be shown.


to hell with it, that'll do
well done! fourth time lucky!
come on, it was pretty tight
yep, it was an amazing display of sheer parking genius.
I didn't want to scuff the wheels, actually
o.k. see you later then
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if I'm not at the kerb in 15 minutes, go on without me
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Blair seeks to salvage royal tour of India

Blunders leave Government with serious foreign policy hitch, says Philip Webster, political editor

TONY BLAIR and Robin Cook tried yesterday to salvage the Queen's tour of India after a series of blunders left the Government embroiled in its first serious foreign policy setback. The war of words between Delhi and London is threatening to overshadow next week's Commonwealth conference in Edinburgh.

The *Prime Minister* ordered the Cabinet to highlight the successes of the tour after damaging coverage in Britain and India. Senior ministers tried to play down suggestions of a rift between Buckingham Palace and the Government after a royal official appeared to deflect blame for breaches of protocol on to ministers.

But hopes that the controversy might die down were dashed last night when Indian government sources claimed Labour had a "hidden agenda" to create an independent Kashmir. The unnamed sources said Mr Cook had told Indian authorities the Kashmir issue was an "article of faith" with the Labour Party. "The hidden agenda was ultimately to obtain an independent state of Jammu and Kashmir," the sources said. "Cook genuinely believes that there is an unfinished business of Partition."

A speech by the Queen in Islamabad called on Pakistan and India to settle their "historic differences" over Kashmir, a remark that upset the Indian Government because it was seen as internationalising the conflict. But a senior official travelling with the Queen yesterday said she had acted on her Government's advice. "The Queen is here on the advice of ministers in Britain. The Queen does not go out on a limb."

Senior palace officials were reported later to have assured the Foreign Office that the remarks were not intended as criticism of the Government. They said that the official was merely stating the constitutional position and had no complaint over the advice offered by Mr Cook to the Queen. Mr Cook, back in London, spoke to Sir Robert Fellowes, the Queen's private secretary, yesterday and there was apparently no acrimony.

High-ranking Foreign Office sources said that Mr Cook was not aware that the palace was levelling any criticism at the Government. Mr Cook later defended the Islamabad speech which the Foreign Office would have automatically seen. "It is unreasonable to criticise Her Majesty for calling for reconciliation between the two countries," he said. The Foreign Secretary and Mr Blair were at pains all day to claim that the media's concentration on alleged breaches of protocol had obscured the true value of the tour.

Mr Cook described the row over the speech the Queen had had to cancel last night as a "storm in a toast-cup". And in a move that appeared to take the pressure off Sir David Gore-Booth, British High Commissioner in Delhi, the Foreign Secrtary let it be known that no blame attached to British officials.

Ministers said that reports of friction between Britain and India were "making mountains out of molehills". But tensions persisted with another Indian government minister criticising Mr Cook and the Duke of Edinburgh.

The row has given a rare chance for the Conservatives to attack. Michael Howard, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, accused Mr Cook of damaging Britain's standing abroad. "Never has a Foreign Secretary caused so much offence to so many people in such a short time. He has made a disastrous start."

At yesterday's Cabinet meeting Mr Cook said the royal visit to Pakistan and India had been a success, contrary to media reports. He described the "enormous warmth" with which people had greeted the Queen, and said the trip had also been a major success in trade terms, with the signing of eight big contracts.

Jayanthi Natarajan, the Indian Civil Aviation Minister, told BBC Radio 4's *The World at One* that although the state visit had been "successful from the Queen's point of view", there was unhappiness about "certain avoidable remarks" attributed to Mr Cook.

Philip Howard, page 20
Leading article, page 21

Cook lists gains from trip

By Michael Binyon
Diplomatic Editor

FAR from being the accident-prone fiasco portrayed in the media, the state visits to India and Pakistan have been spectacularly successful, Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday.

The visit to India had led to important trade contracts, brought huge and warm crowds into the streets, especially in Amritsar, and has yielded valuable political agreements during his talks Inder Kumar Gujral, the Prime Minister, Mr Cook said.

The Foreign Secretary, who returned home on Wednesday, said there was a perception in the Royal Household that there were two state visits: the one reported by the media which focused only on protocol difficulties, and the one experienced by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

"When we returned from Amritsar we were euphoric at the reception," Mr Cook said. He said that tens of thousands of people came to see the Queen, with crowds stretching for 20 miles. The high point was the presence of five Sikhs from Birmingham who were paying for the restoration of the Golden Temple. "This illustrates the very close ties between our two countries," Mr Cook told *The Times*.

State visits, he said, had three main purposes, and these had been achieved. The first was the people-to-people contact, which was "spectacularly" achieved at Amritsar, Madras and in the other cities visited. The second was to create a good climate in which to boost trade. And the third was to give politicians the chance to meet in the wings of the visit and discuss bilateral relations.

Mr Cook said his talks with Mr Gujral had gone well. "He said that political and economic relations had never been better or in better shape." He said they discussed cooperation in the World Trade Organisation, at the United Nations and at the forthcoming Commonwealth conference in Edinburgh. Mr Gujral will be one of only four speakers at the opening of the summit.

He said that his talks in Pakistan had focused on how to obtain a ceasefire in Afghanistan and the vital issue of drug trade prevention.

Envoy rejects fuss about 'little toasts here and there'

From Christopher Thomas in Madras

CONTROVERSY continued to dog the Queen's visit yesterday, despite an intensive damage control exercise by the Foreign Office and the Palace. *British sources indicated that* Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, had raised the question of Kashmir with Inder Kumar Gujral, the Prime Minister, in Delhi this week despite an Indian *statement saying he* had not done so.

It was apparently not a hostile meeting, as some Indian reports indicated yesterday, but Mr Gujral did urge Mr Cook to be more cautious in his public statements.

The two countries have been at odds all week about events surrounding the Queen's visit, in large measure because of India's outrage at what it suspects is the British Government's anti-Indian position over Kashmir. The depth of anger is reflected in extraordinary outbursts by official spokesmen in Delhi.

Comments yesterday by Sir *David Gore-Booth, the British* High Commissioner to Delhi, were described by one External Affairs Ministry spokesman as an attempt to "cover his backside". Sir David said *the brief remarks that the* Queen had planned in Tamil Nadu, which she was forced to cancel because India said protocol allowed only one speech per state visit, had never amounted to a speech.

"I am not sure what the fuss is all about," he said. It had never been intended that there should be more than one major speech. The rest were going to be "little toasts here and there". The Queen did not feel embarrassed. "It is a little snafu that is bound to occur in a programme of this magnitude and complexity."

He said the relationship between Britain and India was sensitive for historical reasons and the fact that India had invited the Queen was a tribute to her and Britain. The visit was bound to be difficult to navigate because of historic sensitivities. He defended the speech she made in Pakistan because "it would be extremely odd if the Queen were in Pakistan and *did not refer to* what is, for the Pakistanis, the core issue".

Palace officials indicated yesterday that the Queen had accepted that the Royal Family *must adapt after the death of* Diana, Princess of Wales, but made it clear there would be no sudden switch of style. They spoke of the need for "softer, gentler touches".

A senior source said that "no one should ever try to persuade any member of the Royal Family to be anything they are not". The Palace regards the death of the Princess *as the first royal* tragedy to occur in what a senior official called the "mass media culture". He said shock waves normally took time to reach the outside world but this time they had reached everyone immediately.

These observations indicate soul-searching within the Royal Family to redefine its role. The Queen's trip to Pakistan and India could have successfully projected her but instead the visit has been mired in trouble. The Queen is described, nevertheless, as happy with *the welcome she* has received. Palace officials talked of the "nit-picking" that has overwhelmed the trip's positive aspects. The affair of the cancelled speech in Madras had added to other "fleabites" during the tour.

DESIKAN KRISHNAN / AP

The Queen, accompanied by R. Venkataraman, the former President of India, meets a dancer from the Kalakshetra Foundation after watching a dance performance under a banyan tree in Madras yesterday (Christopher Thomas writes).

Roses tribute to Gandhi

It was a quiet day, as outwardly serene as all the others in her nearly two weeks of state visits to Pakistan and India, belying the confusion that has been swirling about her.

But besides viewing the dancing, the making of a Tamil film and an exhibition of crafts, the Queen fulfilled a more sombre engagement. She was driven for an hour out of the city to the park where Rajiv Gandhi, the former Prime Minister, was blown up by a suicide-bomber in 1991, and laid a wreath of red roses in front of a memorial. Today she flies to Cochin for the penultimate day of engagements.

Politician demands return of diamond

By Michael Binyon

A SENIOR Indian opposition politician demanded yesterday that Britain return to India the world's most famous diamond and the largest collection of Indian manuscripts.

Speaking on the BBC *Today* programme, K.R. Malkani, a leading member of the BJP Hindu nationalist party, called for the return of the Koh-i-Noor diamond and the India Office Library, renewing claims that have been made for more than 50 years.

There is no chance that the Government will agree to the transfer of the diamond or the priceless collection of books in the British Library. "The Koh-i-Noor forms part of the Crown Jewels and will not be returned," the Foreign Office said.

Even before independence, Indian politicians were demanding the return of the 106-carat gem that is the centrepiece of the Queen Mother's Crown. It was presented to Queen Victoria by the East India Company in 1850. At intervals over the past 50 years that demand has been repeated by Indian politicians.

The India Office Library is a priceless collection of manuscripts and archives from and about India and Asia that was formerly housed in the India Office in Whitehall. It now forms part of the British Library, and with 13 miles of archives and about a million published items is the richest collection in the world.

Some 70 per cent of them are in Asian languages; the rest are books published in Europe. Many do not deal with India at all, but cover much of Asia and Africa, including records of dealings between the East India Company and China.

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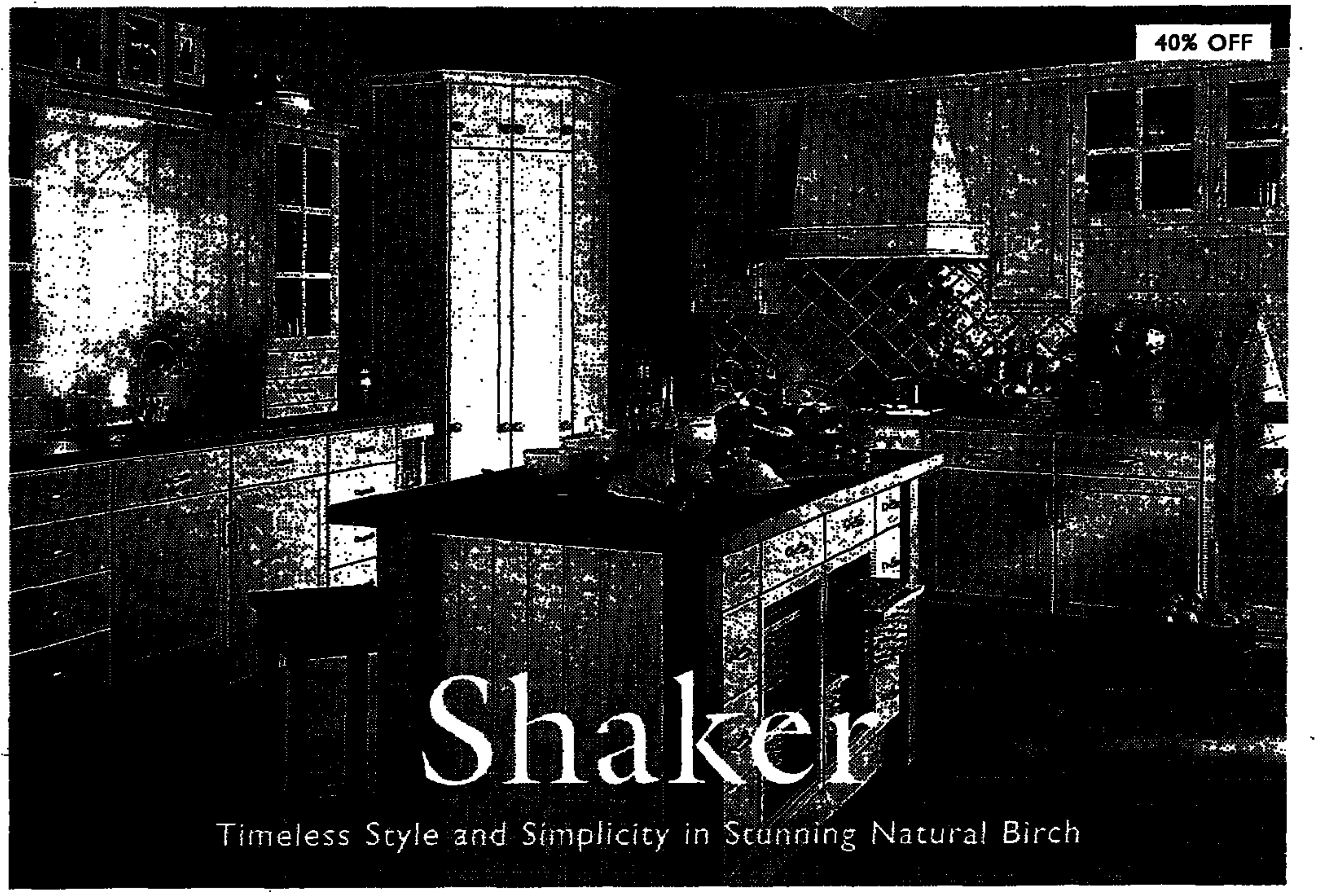

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TI 74

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The British are here to stay

SIMON WALKER

John Galliano's collection for Dior: a fusion of Belle Epoque splendour with boudoir seduction

John Galliano, left, for Dior; Stella McCartney in her first collection for Chloé; Galliano, again for Dior, and Issey Miyake

Paris Fashion Week scarcely qualifies as being truly French any more, says Style Editor **Grace Bradberry**

Stella McCartney for Chloé, and Alexander McQueen for Givenchy

Back in the 1960s, Sir Paul McCartney hitch-hiked to Paris and posed for a picture on the steps of the *Paris Opera House. That was as far* as he got. On Wednesday his daughter Stella took over the place for her debut as chief designer at Chloé. On each of the little gilt chairs there was a programme entitled "Stella McCartney: I believe." And it was Stella's guest list that was on the door.

Sir Paul had a tear in his eye. He was not the only one: there are *members of the French fashion* establishment who could weep that their most famous *ateliers* have been overrun by Britons. What is more, the Britons look set to stay. John Galliano is firmly established, while Bernard Arnault is negotiating to extend the two-year contract of Alexander McQueen, the East End bad boy.

It is McQueen who really riles *the haute bourgeoisie. His uncouth* looks and camouflage trousers are *just not comme il faut.* The sight of him sitting in the lighting gantry during the Givenchy show, lighting a cigarette and swigging his beer, would have sent them into apoplexy. (Had he shown in Milan, the police would probably have charged him with batons.)

So Paris Fashion Week is scarcely recognisable as French any more. The first five days were *dominated by the British,* the Japanese and Belgian and Austrian deconstructionists. Even Chanel is headed by a German, Karl Lagerfeld.

It is, however, the Britons who are really on trial. Galliano can do haute couture superlatively — but can he do a commercial ready-to-wear collection? McQueen can do ready-to-wear — though his harsh aesthetic is not everyone's taste — but the jury is out on his haute couture. And before this week, the question was could Stella McCartney cut it at all?

To everyone's surprise, it was McCartney, 25, just two years out of Central St Martin's, who silenced the doubters most effectively. The soundtrack to her show included the song, *Ain't She Sweet*, and the clothes were just that — creatively unambitious but feminine, whimsical and above all desirable.

Naomi Campbell and Kate Moss, who modelled in McCartney's graduate show, were back, opening the collection in white dresses with tiny frills and lines of open-work reminiscent of Edwardian lingerie looks.

But it is McCartney's trouser suits, wide-legged, flat-fronted with jackets cut sexily across the bust to expose camisole tops, that are likely to become her signature. They are sassy, flattering and distinctive enough to be a hit — especially with Ms McCartney's moneyed chums. While other designers need to produce some outré clothes to give themselves an avant-garde cachet, McCartney *doesn't. Her front row* — Paul, Ringo, David Bailey, *was the cachet.*

The Dior show was harder to call. Galliano's fusion of Belle Epoque splendour with boudoir seduction has proved such a winning combintation that he has carried it over from the haute couture to the ready-to-wear. But the dresses, including stunning *bias-cut lingerie numbers,* were less opulent versions of their couture counterparts.

Despite a section of the show hopefully entitled "Business Meetings", the combination of high-waisted pinstripe trousers with double-breasted jackets tucked *inside,* seem unlikely to catch on. The short, nipped-waist jackets remain highly desirable.

McQueen, showing his second ready-to-wear collection for Givenchy, was the only one to strike out in a new direction. The Paris-Texas theme only occasionally descended into kitsch. If some of the trouser suits featured scary shoulder pads, then others were lean, mean and rather cool, with fringing on sleeves that flared into a bell-bottom.

But if Parisians find McQueen a *little outlandish,* then there *is still* hope for him, compared with Issey *Miyake* whose collection did not inspire immediate affection. The opening dresses, constructed of swathes of off-white muslin, were reminiscent of surgical bandages. Later, billows of crushed silk wound round the models in sculptural forms. But still, the French love Issey Miyake.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

GAGA ABOUT GALLIANO

Style pulls back the blinds at the house of Dior

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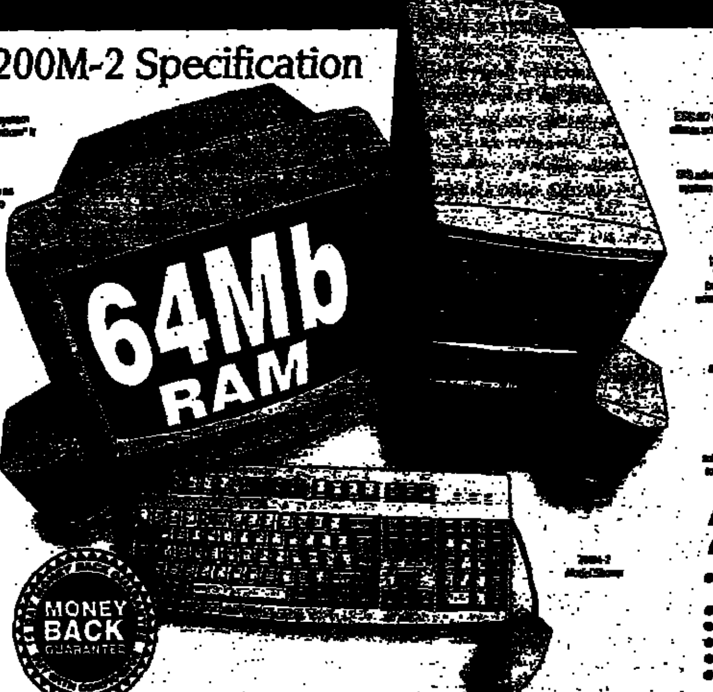


هكذا من الأصل

CHRIS HARRIS

Kimberly Fortier: tried and condemned as a small-time kitten woman

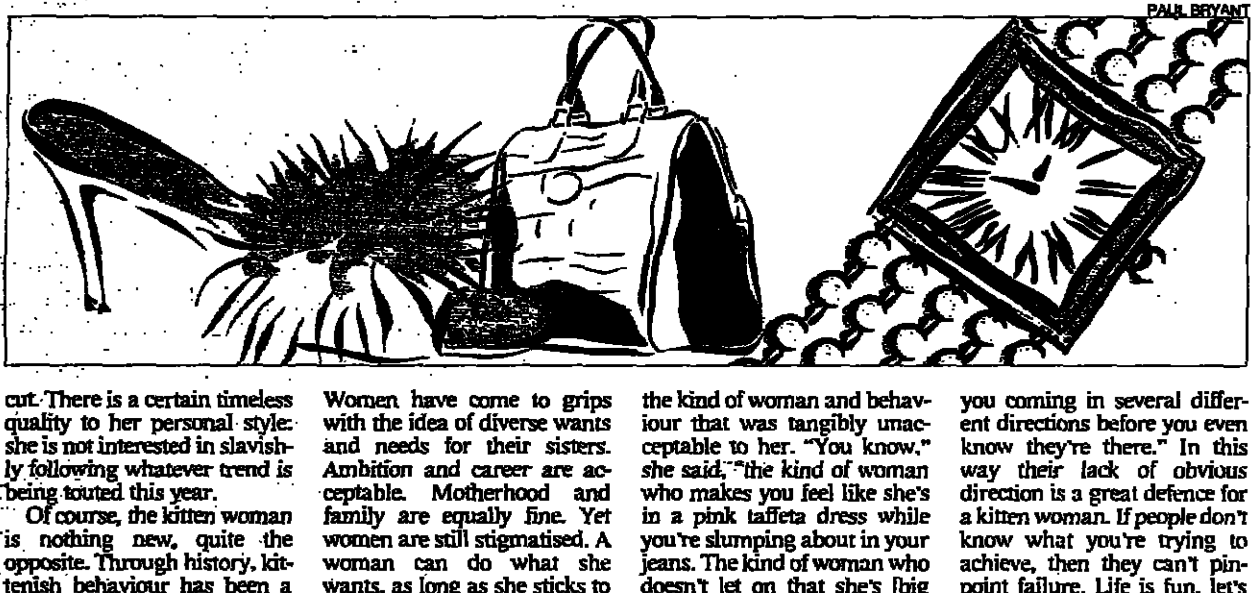
Kitten woman: claws and effect

Germaine Greer: critical

As Germaine Greer attacks the women's magazine culture of sexual availability, *Vogue* profiles the kitten woman in all her fluffy glory. Below, **Kimberly Fortier** and **Erica Wagner** debate the issue

DES JENSON

Erica Wagner: women are people, kittens are just baby cats


PAUL BRYANT

Women are not created equal. Some are pretty, clever and well-connected. Others are not. But there are those who know *how* to circumvent whatever Mother Nature has doled out, and grab the floor either way. Among these is the genus "kitten woman".

You know the type: you've *met her often enough. You're* in the boardroom, business on your mind, when she comes bustling in (late again). Her taxi ran into a political protest in Park Lane: what's the problem with these Albanians anyway? *She sits down*, cocks her head and playfully taps your wrist. What a *marvellous* manicure you have. She can't ever find the time... or any place in town... where do you go? Now, about the printing contract, it's 25 per cent over what she's budgeted and she's *been reading that paper prices* are way down per tonnage. Sorry, no deal at this price. But don't you just love the *Financial Times* — the pink paper, so flattering to the complexion? It reflects up on to your face when *you read it*...

This is kitten woman in all *her fluffy, purring*, girlish glory. Listen carefully and you'll hear the distinctive call: whether it's a Jackie Kennedy-style baby whisper or Marilyn *Monroe's* breathy, little-girl drawl, it's not the kind of voice you hear hurtling over the "time" call in a pub. At a party, the man she's speaking to has to lean forward to hear her. Quite a bit forward — unless she's actually *whispering* in his ear.

Kitten woman has a way of making every gesture look childlike and intimate. If she's a friend of yours, she'll straighten your collar, clasp your hand, tilt her head and look up into your eyes. But don't believe this is all about sexual power; *she* wants women to like her just as *much as men. In a strange* way, women are the more important conquest of the two. Men already tend to see women as the other. They expect women *to* behave in a different way and are more *relaxed about* being charmed and cajoled. Women, however, want a certain amount of sameness from their female friends and colleagues (particularly if the women in question are on a similar level at work).

Other women are alarmed *by* all that verbal tap-dancing and eyelash fluttering. They doubt and distrust. To win these women over is the ultimate victory.

Though they can sound rather outrageous in print, the voice and the body language common to kitten women are actually quite subtle, as is the dress code. She does not go for overtly sexy or glamorous clothing; nor does she favour cutting-edge designer fashion. *Her pastel linen suits, tidy* dresses and slender trousers and jackets are chosen so that *she* will be noticed, not her clothes. In a subtly titillating way, they often resemble an elegant school uniform. She wears very good jewellery, which she's collected purposefully for years. Her manicure is neat, nails not too long, garish varnish out of the question. Her make-up is neutral (no smoky-eyed, scarlet-*lipped vamping) and applied* to create the glow of health and youth. Her hair is tangibly clean. It tends to be shoulder length, with lots of shine and bounce. She has what her friends call a good cut. There is a certain timeless quality to her personal style: she is not interested in slavish*ly following* whatever trend *is* being touted this year.

Of course, the kitten woman is nothing new, quite the opposite. Through history, kittenish behaviour has been a feminine ideal. It reached its zenith *in the* 19th century, when if you didn't have an adorable, *wheedling child* bride, then you'd *married* the wrong girl. Since the First World War, there has been a gradual flow of women into the workforce, accelerating with the sexual liberation of *the Sixties and the break-up of* the traditional family unit.

Women have come to grips with the idea of diverse wants and *needs* for their sisters. *Ambition and career* are acceptable. Motherhood and *family* are equally fine. Yet women are still stigmatised. A woman can do what she wants, as long as she sticks to some fairly strict, though unspoken, guidelines. Work must be taken seriousy, un*emotionally, purposefully: just* like a man does really.

Poor kitten woman. Once admired, she now faces contempt from the (non-feline) female population. A case in point is the phone call I *received from Vogue's features* director. She began to describe the kind of woman and behaviour that was tangibly unacceptable to her. "You know," *she said*, "*the kind of woman* who makes you feel like she's in a *pink* taffeta dress while you're slumping about in your jeans. The kind of woman who doesn't let on that she's [big pause] really quite [bigger pause] intelligent." Ugh! I *knew* why *she* was asking me *to write this. I was being tried* (and condemned) as a small-time kitten woman.

In defence, I have to say that kitten behaviour is rarely a conscious, calculated act; it's more a mixture of folkloric *memory and nature. It's* a preference for the roundabout over the straight line, nuanced chatter over direct confrontation; Talleyrand over Napoleon, Clara Bow over Joan Crawford. We want success, *like everyone else. And some*times it's best reached through a great deal of laughter and tossing of curls. "I tend to hire very chatty, feminine women," admits the chairman of an advertising agency. "Beneath *a barrage of inane chatter they* move quite successfully towards a specific goal."

As the American novelist Walker Percy once said of Southern girls (the mothers of all kitten women): "They see you coming in several different directions before you even know they're there." In this way *their* lack of obvious direction is a great defence for a kitten woman. If *people* don't know what you're trying to achieve, then they can't pinpoint failure. Life is fun, let's be merry, snapping up that big IBM contract is just the cherry on the cake.

Let's face it, men have control of the citadel and they're not crazy about ambitious women, so being ambitious without looking it, works. Early BBC footage of Margaret Thatcher shows the young MP talking softly of *politics while she does the* washing-up after Sunday lunch. What a pro.

The deflating part of life for kitten woman is that many people don't get the joke. My beautiful, serious best friend is *still puzzled by the way* I occasionally act, and spends time explaining *me* to her other friends. She once introduced me to a *Guardian* journalist with the words: "This is Kimberly. *She* is not as she seems." *When* we *meet* after work I reproach her: "Why can't I be interested in the environment and have a great hairdo, too? *Why can't I* support women MPs and shop at Chanel? Why can't I discuss my new handbag with the Chancellor of the Exchequer: I'm sure we could move on to exchange-rate policy later?" *My friend snorts*. "Knock *it* off," she says. "They'll just think you're stupid. Why don't you think about just slightly retuning your public personality?" I find this depressing. It makes me feel like Channel 5.

All I can ask of my fellow women is, don't sit in judgment. You are admired for being earnest, driven, caring and modern. Let me be frivolous, flirtatious and slightly dippy. And we're not *out to* get you. One good thing about *kitten* women is that they don't like to use their claws.

● *Extracted from an article in the November issue of* Vogue. *Kimberly Fortier is publisher of* The Spectator

WHO'S WHO IN THE FELINE STAKES

KITTEN WOMEN	*TIGRESSES*
Helena Bonham Carter	Emma Thompson
Cherie Blair	Clare Short
The Queen Mother	Camilla Parker Bowles
Anna Ford	Sue MacGregor
Julie Burchill	Charlotte Raven
Donatella Versace	Donna Karan
Naomi Wolf	Germaine Greer
Felicity Kendal	Dame Maggie Smith
Arundhati Roy	Jeanette Winterson
Anna Wintour	Diana Vreeland
Laa Laa	Po

Why I prefer real charm over guile

Well, you choose. They've *given you* a list. Felicity Kendal *or Clare Short*. Who's it going to be?

They're all out there, the categories we can slot ourselves into. Men and women both — but let's face it, *mainly* women. Kitten woman seems *to be the latest. She's not* quite a vamp, she's nicer than that, she'd *never* steal your husband and you'd never lean over to your partner, flick your chin in her direction and whisper, "Look what she's got on. *Really*."

Kitten woman keeps it quiet. Nice manicure, tasteful clothes, curls cut just right for tossing. *She* gets her *man* — and in this case let's take that *as a fair metaphor* for her business deal, or just her way — with a good deal of cleverness and a healthy *dose* of eyelash-batting which, of course, is just fine. The problem is when other people notice what's going on.

Most women go about things *differently from men*. Not so long ago I sat quietly at a table while two men I know *shouted seven* kinds of hell out of one another in an attempt to gain victory in an argument. I can recall thinking to myself that this was not how I would have gone about my own campaign: but my *strategy would not have* included inquiring who had cut my opponent's hair.

I like to think I'd address the issue with calm and intelligence — and some degree of charm. The secret of charm, the real kind, is that you must not be able to spot it, and surely *that is the problem* with kitten woman, or at least in *deciding very* consciously to be her. This goes for men as well as women.

Charm in its best sense is genuine, a real desire to get the best from people — whatever the situation — because it is in everyone's best interests. Charm doesn't work when it's calculated. *You can see it* coming from over the river.

In theory, the point about KW (as we may perhaps call her) is that you can't: it's so subtle and so clever that you are just, oh, swept away by it and before you know it your assets have been stripped and you have to sell the farm. And then — wouldn't you feel like an idiot? Mightn't KW's scented *halo* begin to fade?

Now here's the thing: I don't have any curls *to* toss, and I can't pretend that this *isn't a decision quite as con*scious as one to have a *permanent* wave. Every decision I make — every decision we all make — about how I cut my hair, what I wear, how I behave, is at some level calculated, even at the times I might fool myself it isn't. And of course I know that there are times when a smile will really do the trick. But that's the way human beings interact. That's what makes it interesting.

> Think of plain Jane Eyre: a woman who got what she wanted

Rejecting the stereotype of kitten woman doesn't mean turning into *Aliens'* Ripley. Think about plain Jane Eyre: a woman who got what she wanted (you might see her marriage *to* Mr Rochester as *the only kind of merger* and acquisition available to most *women at the time) by speak*ing her mind. Jane wouldn't flatter or flutter, Jane told the truth. As for Blanche Ingram, where did all her kittenish skitterings get her? Right out the door, that's where. Jane may not think she's beautiful: but she is, her clear, unwavering character shining through her every action.

Clarity, not guile, is the more attractive trait. It's an idea *that runs* through literature — not just Jane, but Esther Summerson in *Bleak House* (one of Dickens's best women, though he *seems* to have had a weakness for the kitten himself), to name just one other — and popular culture too; how better to explain the appeal of an actor such as Jodie Foster?

O*f course, if being kit*ten woman makes you happy, live long and prosper, may all your mergers be merry. But is the secret of the successful woman's life really to hide her ambitions *in a whispery* voice and a downcast eye? I don't *think it has to be that way. If*, at the end of our meeting, I have charmed you, I hope I have achieved it by showing you who I am, not who I think you would like *me* to. Then there is a far better chance that what we want to achieve — success in business, a particular goal, or, indeed, a love affair — will not only *come to pass but continue to* bear fruit for us both. I'll look you in the eye and tell you what I think. The thing about women is: they're people. Kittens are just baby cats.

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A shot in the arm for the body politic

Denis MacShane wants the State to fund parties, not smother them

Should taxpayers pay for democracy? The question Sir Patrick Neill has to answer is not a new one. Pound by pound, decade by decade, the political process has got its hands on public money. To read Trollope, the only linkage between politics and money was whether or not the Duke of Omnium would buy a seat for one of his wife's favourites. We have moved on from the late 19th century.

MPs now have a middle-rank professional salary, though even that is not sufficient for some Tory frontbenchers. Allowances for MPs permit them to hire one-and-a-half members of staff at decent London salaries; but travel, telephone calls, constituency offices, computer and communications equipment all have to be juggled within tight limits. Ken Clarke had to find a £20 B&B at the Blackpool conference because he was paying from his own pocket.

Shadow Cabinet members now get financial assistance. Since Harold Wilson's day, the leaders of the two main Opposition parties get a car and driver. But the broader funding of parties was always rejected by the Conservatives. Their own occult sources of funding, including some dodgy overseas cash cows, allowed the Tories to outspend their rivals. Conservative MPs also loved jeering at Labour being in the pockets of the trade unions. They had a point. Until the Tony Blair era, the unions paid the vast majority of the party's bills. Labour's turn to business and the doubling of party membership and donations have reduced the trade union share of Labour's income, but the latter remains important.

William Hague's identification of sleaze — not the sexual variety but the corruption of public ethics by money and power — as the cancer to be rooted out if his party is to survive shows how fast Tory thinking on party political funding has evolved.

There can be few who want to move to the American or Japanese system of permanent fundraising, because there are no limits on what political parties can spend on television advertising. The business of politics should be to strengthen democracy's power over money, not the reverse. Paradoxically, the millions of dollars that American political parties raise and spend do little to encourage political participation. An American President is lucky if one in four of his fellow citizens bothers to vote for him.

But do we want to go in the other direction — of political parties being given large cheques simply for existing, or for standing candidates in elections? Forms of state funding now exist in all European countries. In France and Italy the scandal of ministerial decisions being taken or contracts awarded in return for major donations to political parties destroyed political careers — indeed, it destroyed the Italian Christian Democrats.

Can Britain find a third way between the corruptions of US political fundraising and the corporatism of European state funding? One mechanism would be to distinguish between the vote-winning business of politics and the policy or educational side of party activity. Parties could get help from the State under two headings. The first would be based on popular support — the number of votes cast in elections — but could only be spent on education, training and policy development.

The second block of state cash should relate to the number of individual members that a party has, and be proportionate to the amount of money that a party raises through its grassroots activities or by appealing for donations. All cash from outside sources should have a maximum limit and should be publicly registered.

Some European nations have party-linked political foundations. A British version of these would provide the means for policy discussion and research. All parties, Government and Opposition, badly need these to stay relevant and to break through the carapace of old thinking, such as left Labour stranded like a turtle on its back in the 1980s.

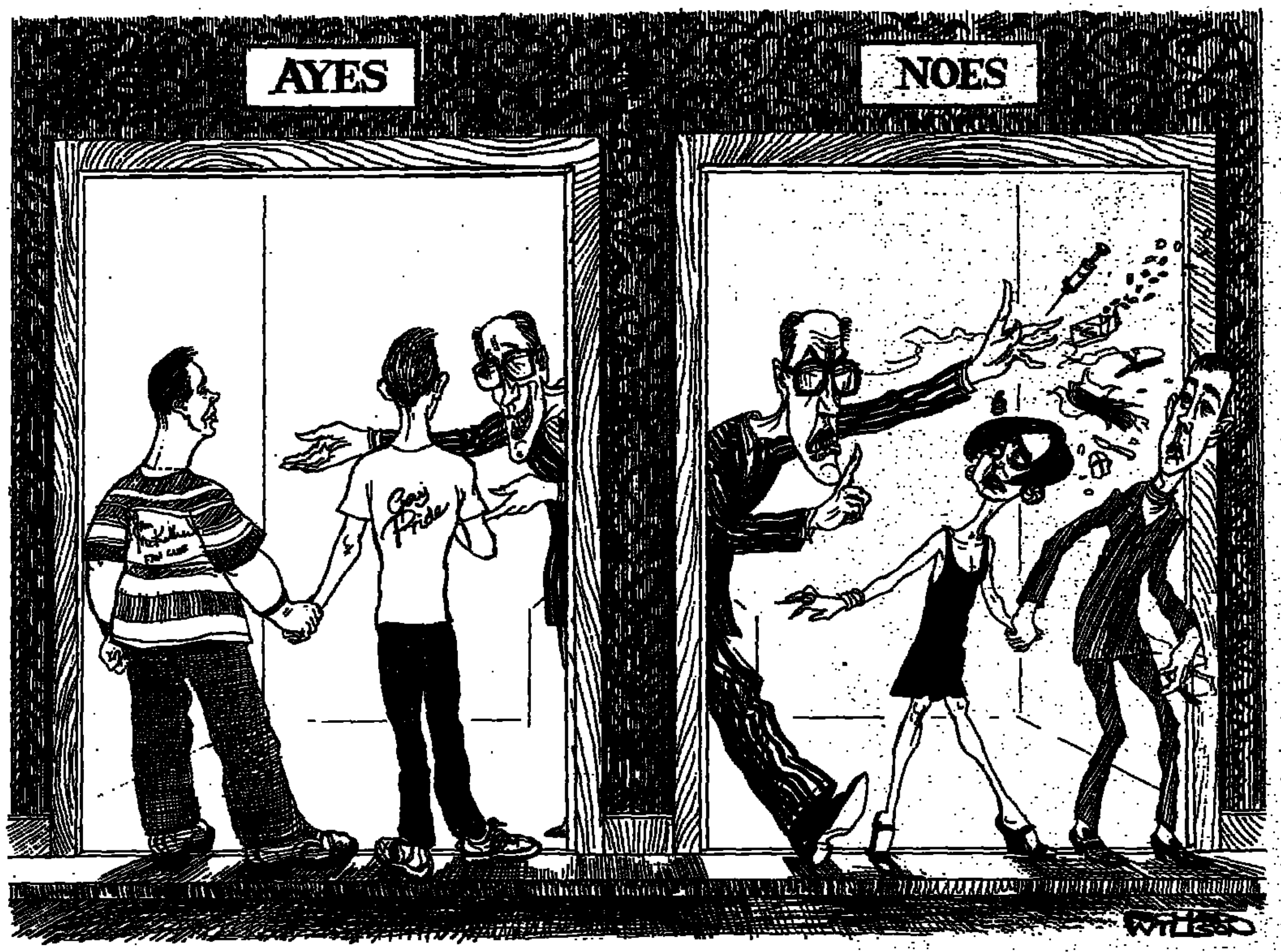
Training for candidates as well as for MPs, councillors and members of the new assemblies could be done professionally. Elected politicians, who take decisions which involve the spending of billions of pounds and which affect the lives of millions of people, also need to join the lifelong learning process.

Policy discussion is not simply academic "wonking" but the lifeblood of the democratic process. It cannot be reduced to gladiatorial Left-Right contests at conference rostrums, nor to glitzy, pre-packaged speeches and headlines orchestrated by spin-doctors. By focusing state aid on the process of policy debate and development, as well as the training of candidates and party officials, British politics would free itself from the accusation of being beholden to special interests. Companies, unions and pressure groups would still be free to lobby, campaign, and seek to influence politics.

This week I will have attended two party meetings in my constituency in Rotherham at which the Christmas raffle tickets were sold, tickets printed for the annual fundraising dinner, and plans laid to recruit new members. I don't want a state cheque to replace that. I like partisan political campaigning and will raise money and recruit supporters. Nor do I want money flowing exclusively to the central party machines, which can then control local political activity by withholding cash.

Fellow Labour MPs may say that I am mad to argue for a state funding system that puts a premium on the Conservative and Liberal Democrat parties being obliged to go out and recruit members, and having financial help to discuss policy. On the contrary, it places all the more onus on new Labour to out-recruit and out-think our opponents. It is part of the process of modernisation.

The author is Labour MP for Rotherham.



Westminster logjams

Gay rights took a decade to become Commons sense; drugs will take longer

Matthew Parris

Looking in, during Labour's Brighton conference, on the Stonewall lobbying group's gay equality dance in the Metropole's big Empress ballroom, you might have suspected that heterosexual partygoers outnumbered gay ones. You would have been right. The straights turned out in force. Quite a few of the gays stayed away. The straights, poor lambs, had heard the event was the happening thing.

The gays feared it might prove somewhat un-chic. Some thought it would turn into too much of a barn dance: a scrum in a hall with Twiglets, crisps and indifferent wine. Anyway, 10pm was far too early; nobody at the cutting edge goes to a dance which starts before midnight.

One could not but smile at the irony. Ben Bradshaw, the new MP for Exeter who is openly gay, announced his non-attendance in advance, his view (as I understand it) being that one doesn't need to make plonking statements about one's sexuality by appearances at totemic social functions any more.

I see Ben's point, although the result was a huge and enthusiastic expression of solidarity, marred only by the failure of those with whom the solidarity was being expressed to turn up. Frankly, they were too busy. As so often, the poor old heterosexuals were one step behind.

But of course it was more important for them to be there. A progressive attitude towards homosexuality is now as obligatory an accoutrement for the new Labour activist as a mobile phone. If this goes much farther, it may become necessary for me to become a homophobe.

I hate it when an attitude becomes chic. Apart from an instinctive Bolshieness about any fashionable cause, I worry that once a bandwagon rolls, people join for the wrong reasons. The quality of debate suffers and dubious assumptions go unchallenged. The concept of "equality", for instance, has been most effective as a PR weapon in the fight for gay rights and is now tossed into the argument as if it were itself an argument. How can you be against equality? But we do not call for equality for drink-drivers or wife-beaters. The case for the blamelessness of what we defend must be properly made before we can talk of equality.

I suspect, though, that my grumpiness about the gay bandwagon is a result of having been left in the dust myself by its acceleration. In the 1980s, perhaps at some slight cost to my own prospects, I attached myself to an argument considered by fellow Conservatives to be futile, self-destructive and silly. As parliamentary vice-presidents of the Conservative Group for Homosexual Equality, the late Martin Stevens and I campaigned for a modest measure of tolerance of homosexuality within our party, and for the Home Office to consider an eventual reduction of the age of consent to 18. I never really weighed the arguments for 16 as the age of consent, or for laws protecting gay partnerships, not because I thought them wrong but because they seemed absurdly avant-garde.

Avant-garde in any party. It was a Labour whip, Walter Harrison, who took me kindly aside in the Strangers' Bar at the Commons in the mid-1980s and advised me to steer well clear of the issue if I wanted to be taken seriously. "Not in this century," we were told by uncensorious but worldly-wise party managers, "maybe not in our lifetimes."

Well not, as it turned out, in Martin Stevens's lifetime. Dear Martin died suddenly in 1986, his brave work largely unremarked. At the funeral in his constituency of Fulham, no speaker mentioned his work for the homosexual cause, although we were there among the congregation, we who had worked with him and whom he had so encouraged. At the memorial service for Allan Roberts (until his death in 1990, the Labour MP for Bootle and a frontbencher), Allan's homosexuality was never alluded to.

Nowadays one reads articles, such as Sir Malcolm Rifkind's on this page on Tuesday, sounding a cautionary note on the Tories' "inclusive" approach to gays while allowing, almost as a throwaway line, that of course nobody advocates intolerance. Nobody? Maybe nobody does now, or not openly. But that is partly because of the work of people like Martin. I wonder if Malcolm would have agreed to be guest of honour at one of CGHE's annual dinners in the early 1980s — dinners at which we always had such an embarrassing struggle to get any Commons colleague to come at all, let alone speak.

I have never sensed any hint of intolerance, personally, in Malcolm Rifkind, but those who warn against further change while allowing, with a shrug, that nobody but a fool takes exception to the status quo, should remind themselves how the status quo became the status quo, and ask themselves where they were when it wasn't. It is for this reason that I have so grateful a recollection of the support of people like Jim Prior, and later Robin Squire and John Bowis (both Tory ministers who lost their seats this May) and the courage of Labour's Chris Smith (who survived) and Maureen Colquhoun (who did not).

Hard though the mobile-phone-brandishing young tigers of new Labour and inclusive Conservatism may find this to believe, Chris Smith, Michael Brown (the Tory MP who lost his seat in May) and I can remember a time when it was not fashionable to be gay. Angela Mason, who as director of Stonewall has led the group through one of the most successful campaigns in modern British lobbying history, might reflect that were it not for herself and her colleagues, politicians' attitudes which, less than half a decade ago, were regarded by every wise head as folly are now being called common sense even in *The Daily Telegraph*.

Why so large and apparently sudden a change? It was my experience on such issues at Westminster that when Parliament, on the one hand, and society, on the other, get seriously out of step, MPs' attitudes resemble the logs in those fabled Canadian logjams. The way the world beyond Westminster lives may have moved way outside the framework still enshrined by law, but MPs do not seem to register the fact.

There are, I think, two reasons for this. First, many MPs do not actually know how the world lives. Most of them watch little television. Some of the older generation of Tories, I found, honestly doubted whether they knew any homosexuals. Secondly, Tory MPs in particular (but working-class Labour MPs too) have a pathological fear of reactionary populism, and populist views are vastly overrepresented among the party activists with whom, disproportionately, they socialise. The noisy opinions of one taxi driver or one disgruntled ward chairman outshout, in an MP's ears, the quiet (sometimes silent) practice of thousands of their constituents whom they hardly know.

Thus an MP's position on (for instance) homosexuality gets stuck; and when three or four hundred together get stuck, then, like logs, the impression is of absolute rigidity. That many of these MPs feel less secure in their opinions than they tell each other is obscured. The consensus is thus as shallow as it is apparently rigid.

Then a log moves. Then another. And suddenly the whole jam begins to shift. What follows is a surprisingly fast freeing-up of the whole flotilla. People begin to tell each other that the new thinking was theirs, too, all along, but they never said so as it seemed a hopeless cause.

In 1980, homosexual law reform seemed to me a very hopeless cause. When in 1988 a number of us placed an advertisement in *The Independent* with 200 signatories from public life, opposing the draft Clause 28 then going through Parliament, we little thought our advocacy of "tolerance of the differences between people" would look, less than a decade later, so very unexceptionable.

When, in 1967, 100 prominent people signed that advertisement headed "The law against marijuana is immoral in principle and unworkable in practice" in *The Times*, they probably did hope that, 30 years later, their opinion would seem unexceptionable. But this logjam remains jammed. If Keith Hellawell, perhaps from a change of mind or perhaps fearful lest his post as Tony Blair's "drugs czar" be snatched from him, finds it necessary to retreat from the more liberal views he expressed three years ago as a Chief Constable, we sense those logs are still piling up. Few MPs take drugs; many are gay; with drugs there are further degrees of separation between what MPs say and what their constituents do.

But the higher the logs pile and the harder they jam, the more sudden and surprising will be the final rush when the logjam frees. Another 30 years, I think, for marijuana; but that was my forecast for gay rights, nine years ago. Now we have been all but overtaken by the pace of change.

Philip Howard

Human facelift, Ma'am? No: your own will do nicely

According to Chris Thomas, our man in Delhi, the Queen is about to launch a more people-friendly monarchy when she returns from her state visits. A senior Palace source described the project to him as "monarchy with a human face". This is an understandable reaction to the people's feely-flowery sentimental revolution after the death and sanctification of Diana, Princess of Wales. Though it does raise the question of what sort of face a monarch can wear other than a human one, pray.

The last monarch to mingle freely with his people as an ordinary human being (or at any rate, as ordinary a human being as can be played by a bluff old admiral) was William IV. He was surprised to succeed to the throne, and delighted by the celebrity it brought. His habit of strolling along the promenade at Brighton saying "What, what!" to all and sundry gave his courtiers kittens, and attracted a large train of all and sundry. So after William died, the royals gave up using the Royal Pavilion, and Victoria put back the regal mask on the face of royalty. Another monarch with a human face was Charles II, who developed a rapid walk and the all-purpose greeting of "God bless you, my good man, God bless you!" to get through the crowd of petitioners in St James's Park without giving anything away. In his day, crowds were more deferential and royal minders were as peremptory as the Roman police.

That dripping cliché about the merits of having a human face rather than a regal or poker or clock face can be traced back to Alexander Dubček, when he said: "We followed a policy so that socialism would not lose its human face." It was given a spin by Ted Heath on the Lonrho affair: "It is the unpleasant and unacceptable face of capitalism." But the question of whether you can find the mind's construction in the face goes back at least four centuries, to the faceless spin-doctor of another Elizabeth with both a human and a professionally organised *Faerie Queene* face.

So the monarchy is to have a new, human face. New Labour is a hot-air balloon of nominal newness and no substance. The Conservatives are compassionate, liberal and desperate to be re-elected. All is suddenly renewed. So can we please have our Shakespeare back? Recently Shakespeare has been enlisted for all faces. Right-wingers such as Michael Portillo decode him as a Thatcherite nationalist of good old England by partial misreading of Henry V at Harfleur and Ulysses in *Troilus and Cressida*. Victor Hugo and anti-Establishment academics enlist him as a man of the people and subversive anti-imperialist with a human face. Deconstructionists say that we read whatever baggage we carry with us into Shakespeare. And in a small way, for once the deconstructionists have a point.

The best book about Shakespeare for a generation has just been published. It is *The Genius of Shakespeare* (in both primary senses of *genius*) by Jonathan Bate. It explains how Shakespeare has a human face that suits all characters and fantasies. For he was a working actor, a team player and a hack as well as becoming the international icon (in another two-faced Diana cliché) for whom all the world was his stage. The plays, the characters, the sonnets, the words exist in ambiguity and many faces. You can have Prince Hal and Ulysses and Coriolanus for hierarchy in society. But do not forget jolly Jack Falstaff and the poor bleeding people and even Caliban, who gets the best lines in *The Tempest*. We all fancy ourselves as Hamlet. Why is Macbeth more interesting than Duncan? Is Isabella in *Measure for Measure* a saint or a puritanical prig?

Like Heisenberg's uncertainty principle and Wittgenstein's word games, you can find whatever you want in Shakespeare only by watching, acting and reading him. Horace was another "genius" with many faces. Professor Bate says that Lope de Vega had the same universal face as Shakespeare. My Spanish is not good enough to know, but I must give him another go. The Queen is a war child, trained to keep a poker face and never show emotions in public. Her face is both highly disciplined and Elizabethan, and human when off duty. She could and should not suddenly adopt a Lady Di face. But Shakespeare had a human face for her and all of us.

THE TIMES DIARY

Raj charge

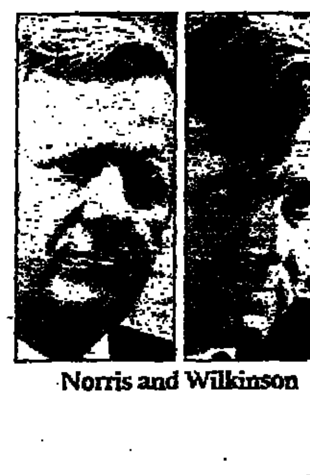
NO SOONER will they have dispatched the Queen from their angry shores than citizens of India will receive an even more colonial British export: 14 descendants of the great Viceroys of India are setting off on a tour of the former Raj. The trip, scheduled for the new year, will be led by the formidable Baroness Flather, who grew up in Lahore: "I've spent seven years at the House of Lords, and I found that there's so much affection for India that I wondered, 'why not do something?'"

So do she did. Invitations were dispatched to some of the biggest nabob names, inviting them on a ten-day jaunt in the country that their families ruled. Among those coming are the admirable Countess Mountbatten and her husband, Lord Brabourne, the Duke and Duchess of Wellington, Viscount and Viscountess Ridley and Lady Davina Darcy de Knayth (a descendant of the swashbuckling colonialist, Lord Clive).

"I'm not going there again. They treated us like royalty"

To charm the natives, the group will attend the Republic Day parade and the presidential reception in Delhi. Despite the embarrassingly anti-British tone of the celebrations and the viceroys' mixed reputations, the baroness expects a warm welcome: "I would not bring them if the Indian Government was uncomfortable. These are delightful people — we do not want to recreate the Raj."

● *IN one evening, an intruder broke into Buckingham Palace, Clarence House and the home of Lord and Lady Soames. The culprit is black and is known to prowl around the Stafford Hotel, St James's. His name? Lucky, a cat. "The Palace called saying it had our cat," said the hotel. "They wanted to know what to do. We asked them to leave it in Green Park — he can find his way home from there." An hour on, and a similar call from Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's home. Again, Lucky was left in the park. The following morning, a call came from Belgravia. "Lady Soames here, got your cat — where do you want it." This time, the Stafford sent its chauffeur for the nocturnal roamer plus a bottle of champagne for Lady S.*



Norris and Wilkinson

Case history

I BET he eats Ferrero Rocher. David Clark, the minister responsible for open government, who was ticked off for failing to declare an agreeable Swiss sojourn, has been pandering to his expensive tastes again. Last week saw him bound for New Zealand to research freedom of information.

While four underlings roughed it in steerage, Clark stretched out in first-class. Sadly, he overestimated the service. The flight took them via Los Angeles, where Clark assumed his luggage would be transferred. It wasn't. Even first-classers, he learnt, should handle their own Louis Vuitton cases. Clark's stayed, leaving him, in unfamiliar pose, shuffling round Auckland in crumpled garb.

● *SHREWSBURY is to record its school song in Maori. This follows a rendition by Michael Palin, an old boy who sang it in Latin to New Zealand natives while filming. A recording will be sent to Christchurch. Problem: finding a Maori speaker in Shrewsbury.*

Naked truth

STEVEN NORRIS'S greatest contribution to public life was his inability to keep his trousers up. How appropriate then that he should be mistaken for a stripper in *The Full Monty*.

To the former Transport Minister's chagrin, his double is Tom Wilkinson, who plays the professional disrober Gerald and has an unenviable weakness for garden gnomes. "Having viewed *The Full Monty* routine," says a Norris associate, "he is confident there is positive proof that he and Mr Wilkinson are in no way related." What proof I wonder?

Rock bottom

POP music is to reverberate around our military bases in a desperate attempt by the Ministry of Defence to raise money. George Robertson, Defence Secretary, has hit upon the plan after Gordon Brown's raid on his coffers.

First on will be the Verve, psychedelic rockers currently No 1 in the album charts. They are negotiating with the Ministry for permission to use defunct airfields and dry docks for a tour. "I am not too familiar with their music," admits Robertson. This happy situation is about to end. Alasdair McGowan, his special adviser, has a weakness for the group so a copy of its latest work, *Urban Hymns*, is winging its way into the minister's red box. But as Robertson may contend, anything to raise money.

Battle cry: the Verve

JASPER GERARD

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THE WRONG SPIN

Do not throw the briefers out with the bathwater

Putting the Government's policies in the best light is one thing; putting the previous Government's policies in the worst light is another. Departmental heads of information are leaving their posts in droves, partly as a reaction to the new administration's attitude to media management. The early enthusiasm for a change in government has turned markedly sour.

The latest to go is Jonathan Haslam, formerly John Major's press secretary but, since the election, chief information officer at the Department for Education and Employment. His departure for a job in the City was hastened by a disagreement with Stephen Byers, Minister for School Standards. Mr Byers asked him to draft a press release criticising the Conservative Government's education policy. Mr Haslam refused, rightly insisting that this was a party matter.

Government press officers are certainly ripe for modernisation. When Labour ministers came to power, they were shocked by how plodding many of their spokesmen were. The tools of modern communication, such as the pager, the mobile phone and even the home number for evenings and weekends, seemed virtually unknown in Whitehall. They clearly had things to learn from their new masters, and Alistair Campbell, Tony Blair's highly political press secretary, set out to train them.

Some were not going to change; they have been dropped down the Whitehall plug-hole. But to lose someone of the calibre of Mr Haslam smacks of carelessness. He might have left anyway, since no other Whitehall job would match his previous one at the side of the Prime Minister. But he is clearly disillusioned too; and his malaise springs not from Luddism but from principle. The principle that he has upheld — the independence and integrity of the Civil Service — is vital, not just for the good of the country but also for the good of the Government. Political partisans often find it hard to understand the concept of neutrality — or even the concept that there is more than one way to see a speech, interpret a report or analyse a set of events. If people are not with them, then they are seen as against them.

Some new ministers have been keeping their press officers poorly informed, preferring to use their politically appointed special advisers to brief journalists. In turn, reporters have been using these advisers more because the official press officers are often not fully apprised of what their ministers are doing or planning.

Ministers may think that they are better served by politicised spokesmen, but their partisan approach may soon begin to backfire on the Government. Journalists understand the subtleties of media manipulation and can gradate the degrees of truth they encounter from the system. When a senior political adviser admits in a television programme to lying to journalists, he debases the coinage of his trade and risks the charge that every word is counterfeit. Chief information officers have at least traditionally been trusted not to lie; and if Downing Street instructs them to deny stories that are true but inconvenient, this will diminish their credibility. Trust is hard earned, and easily lost.

The effectiveness of "spinning" is heavily correlated with the perceived success and competence of a government. In the dying days of the last administration, no amount of spin could turn a bad story into a good one. This Government, still widely applauded, has a generally high credibility. But when times are hard, as undoubtedly they will be at some point in the coming five years, ministers may rue relying too heavily on their political servants. The credibility of their officials will then be at a premium.

THE COLOUR OF MONEY

Disclosure should be the key principle in party finance

Money may make the world go round but its effect on British politics is less predictable. Tony Blair yesterday announced that the Government would introduce legislation to ban foreign donations to political parties and compel contributions over £5,000 to be made public. He also revealed that Sir Patrick Neill would succeed Lord Nolan as chairman of the Committee on Standards in Public life. That body will now examine all aspects of party political finance. Sir Patrick is a man of independence and integrity. He would be wise to consider the limits as well as the attractions of more sweeping reform.

To some extent the committee is being asked to investigate an area where the sources of greatest contention have already passed. The capacity of the Conservatives to accept substantial sums from overseas supporters substantially diminished once Hong Kong returned to China. The extreme disparity in the resources of the two main parties — sharply evident in the early 1980s — has already been eliminated. The Tories, not Labour, are deep in the red. That transformation illustrates an extremely important factor. Money in British politics follows success; it does not create it.

This country already operates a restrictive party finance regime. Expenditure at the constituency level is exceptionally modest. Access to television advertising beyond party election broadcasts is impossible — and properly so. As a consequence our elections are relatively inexpensive and in real terms their level has been broadly stable. There is little evidence that massive spending has any impact on the final parliamentary outcome. If it did then John Major and the Conservatives would probably still be in office. The Referendum Party might well be the official Opposition.

That does not mean that there is no room for improvement. Mr Blair has emphasised the importance of transparency. Over the past 20 years, not least because of Margaret Thatcher, the climate of opinion has swung strongly against self-regulation. Almost all the professions have been forced to adjust to this new era of external scrutiny. Somewhat reluctantly, MPs were obliged to acknowledge this shift after the first Nolan committee report. Political parties must move in the same, more open, direction. For that reason the two proposals outlined by the Prime Minister deserve cross-party support.

The Neill committee should resist, however, those who will demand a more extensive set of regulations. There are only two difficulties with capping the total amounts spent by parties during election campaigns: principle and practice. It is objectionable in principle to restrict artificially the sums that parties may spend and hence that individuals can subscribe. It will also be entirely impractical to do so. If potential donors cannot support their chosen parties directly they will find other means of achieving the same end. The recent history of American political finance illustrates that truth.

Indeed, the most tragic element of the American melodrama is that the drive to avoid spending limits has undermined the openness that had once been so effective. Britain should avoid the same fate. The public interest is best served by strict disclosure that allows outsiders to compare funds received with favours dispensed. That is real accountability. There might also be a case for tax incentives to encourage the mass membership drives that Labour under Mr Blair has started and the Tories must now follow. The dependence of both main parties on sectional interests should be discouraged. But the best solution is enhanced participation, not unenforceable regulation.

MOTHERS IN LAW

The serpent's tooth and the lawsuit of a child

Patrick Macdonald, a law student at Aberdeen University, has been granted legal aid to sue his mother for the living expenses required to complete his degree. Others are already following his example. Mr Macdonald's mother is a Scottish Office civil servant whose two eldest daughters are supporting themselves at university and whose other two children are being privately educated at her expense. Her son chose, after his mother's divorce, to live with his bankrupt father. It may be that Mrs Macdonald could find from within her £45,000 salary the resources to support the son who is unhappy lying on the bed he made. That should, however, be a matter for her conscience and not the courts.

That a son should sue his mother in this way is more than just an offence to filial piety, it is a grotesque misuse of the legal system. Mr Macdonald is within his rights, under the Scottish Family Law Act of 1985 but that does not make his actions right. He protests that he has to go to law because he does not wish to go into debt. A proper horror of indebtedness is a decent Scots prejudice but when it leads a man to use the blunt instrument of a writ to bludgeon money from his mother it becomes not proper prudence but ugly selfishness. What makes Mr Macdonald's meanness of spirit worse is the automatic presumption on his part that someone else should pay for his salad days. How much sharper than a serpent's tooth is the lawsuit of an ungrateful child.

The party is over for students who expected to be subsidised throughout four years of undergraduate existence only to move on to employment much more lucrative than those of their contemporaries who started paying income tax as soon as they left school. The Government's proposed reform of higher education will, rightly, force all but the very poorest students to contribute something to the costs of an education which boosts their future earning potential. If individuals wish to cash in on the benefits of a university education, and few study law as a prelude to missionary work, then they must be prepared to borrow for their investment.

Parents, if they can, may wish to support their children at university. Those who have the resources to do so, and choose not to, should certainly be thought the less of. Affection should not diminish with the end of adolescence. But enforced responsibility should. Parents should not be expected in law to indulge their adult offspring any more than grown-up children should be forced in law to turn up for Christmas lunch. The greatest absurdity, however, is having the taxpayer foot the bill for an act which is destructive of any affection on which a family must depend and which will see the law swallow money which was supposed to be saved from the universities.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Patent protection in genetic research

From the Chairman of the Association of Medical Research Charities and others

Sir, On October 17 the UK Patent Office holds a consultative meeting over the proposed European Biotechnology Patenting Directive, which the European Parliament overwhelmingly endorsed in July after more than eight years of vigorous debate. The directive seeks to harmonise existing patent law in Europe with reference to biotechnological inventions.

It is absolutely right to ensure that every group and individual has the opportunity to make their views known — and in the course of the debate thus far all the interested parties have put forward their views and been heard. The text accepted by the European Parliament in July (by a vote of 388 to 110) had been significantly improved since its reading in 1995: patents will not be granted for human cloning or human embryo experiments; there is provision for an ethics committee; and further protection is given to animal welfare and the rights of indigenous peoples.

The new Government, and in particular the Science Minister, John Battle, made their support for the directive clear both before and after the British election. We fully endorse their position. All those engaged in medical research — charities, government and industry — believe that genetic research should benefit patients as quickly as possible. Patents help to achieve this.

Without Britain's support biotechnology research will be at risk. If Britain's biotechnology industry (currently the world's second largest after the US and set to generate £9 billion in revenue by the year 2000) falters or fails, the time horizon will extend considerably for understanding and developing new treatments for diseases such as schizophrenia, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, cancer, diabetes and osteoporosis.

If we strip away the patentability which existing law allows biotechnological invention, we will see research funding slowly disappear or remove itself to the US and Japan where scientific innovation will continue to be supported. If that happens, not only will Britain and Europe lose money and jobs, but the world will find that the chances of discovering new ways of diagnosing, preventing and treating life-threatening illnesses will be severely limited.

Approval of the biotechnology directive is a vital step in securing a better future for everyone. We urge Britain and the 14 other EU member states to move rapidly and adopt it.

Yours faithfully,
FERGUS LOGAN,
Chairman, The Association of
Medical Research Charities,
DAVID BARNES,
Chief Executive, Zeneca Group plc,
ANDREW BLAKE,
Director,
Seriously Ill for Medical Research,
JAN LESCHLY,
Chief Executive Officer,
SmithKline Beecham plc,
MICHAEL J. REISS,
Senior Lecturer in Biology,
Homerton College, Cambridge,
TIM ROBERTS,
Chairman, The Chartered Institute
of Patent Agents,
RICHARD SYKES,
Chairman and Chief Executive,
Glaxo Wellcome plc,
Association of Medical
Research Charities,
29-35 Faringdon Road, EC1.
October 16.

Sound investment

From Mr David H. Walton

Sir, Congratulations to Mr Richard Noble and his dedicated crew in being the first to exceed Mach 1 on the ground (report, October 14). However, I find it chastening to conclude, from remarks he made in a recent radio interview, that these people may have received more assistance from King Hussein and the people of Jordan, who provided them with a test track, than they did from the City of London.

I am surprised that we have any engineering industry left at all.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID H. WALTON,
10 St Guthlac's Close, Crowland,
Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.
October 14.

Britannia decision

From Lord Ashbourne

Sir, Final confirmation from the MoD of its decision to decommission *HMY Britannia*, with no provision for her replacement (report, October 11), is both short-sighted and ill-judged.

According to the ministry's own plans for a new Royal Yacht, she would cost a maximum of £64 million to build — slightly less than the weekly cost of our membership of the European Union which, according to the Office for National Statistics, is £66 million.

Yours faithfully,
ASHBOURNE
(Chairman, All Party Yacht
Parliamentary Group).
House of Lords.
October 13.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

Memorial garden in a modern spirit

From Mr Charles Jencks

Sir, The idea of a memorial garden for Diana, Princess of Wales, is very fitting (Weekend, October 11): as the saying goes "take your grief to nature", and the banal landscape in front of Kensington Palace asks for some imaginative scheme. However, an 18th-century Dutch replica is not appropriate at all.

I agree with John Dixon Hunt, Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania, that a competition should be called for a contemporary creation which engages the public, as Diana did. A revival, based on Hauduroy's 1708 aerial sketch, would not only be too flat and low in elevation, but also would not provide the variety of open spaces and mystery which are needed in a memorial garden.

Some contemporary works of art, some dramatic celebration of nature — water gardens, level changes, kinetic sculpture — would feel constrained and lonely in the centre of Hauduroy's flat parterres. Above all, this design does not have those private, contemplative and sometimes wild spaces which are essential to thoughtful recollection.

Sincerely,
CHARLES JENCKS,
19 Lansdowne Walk, W11.
October 13.

From Mr Richard Weston, FRSA, RIBA

Sir, In the 18th century, disdain for the formality and "princely pomp" of gardens in the Dutch and French styles was the catalyst for our most radical contribution to the visual arts: the English landscape garden, imitated around the world, gave form to a new political as much as aesthetic vision.

After years of marginalisation, landscape design is alive with new ideas. A contemporary garden in memory of Diana would be a fitting tribute to her modernity and an emblem of the Government's commitment to promoting creativity as a defining feature of a "new Britain".

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD WESTON
(Landscape architect),
Radiant World,
57 Lamborne Road, Leicester.
October 12.

From Mr Peter King

Sir, The proposal to recreate the historic gardens at Kensington Palace should be supported as, alack, there is no contemporary designer who has a background of work on such a grand scale. However, its execution should perhaps be given to the team which completed the highly-praised Privy Garden at Hampton Court, rather than leaving it in the hands of the Royal Parks Agency.

Yours faithfully,
PETER KING
(Editor, *The Good Gardens Guide*),
Nicholas Corner,
Sibford Gower,
Banbury, Oxfordshire.
October 15.

Highland forestry

From Mr Hew Balfour

Sir, As a tenant on the Glenfeshie estate in the Cairngorms I cannot agree with the suggestion by the World Wide Fund for Nature, Scotland, that the conservation of forests is incompatible with private ownership and sporting interests (report, October 9).

Since there have been no sheep on Glenfeshie since the mid-1960s, overgrazing by sheep cannot be responsible for the destruction of the forest in the last 30 years as the WWF asserts. And the claim by a representative of the WWF that he "could not find a tree under 150 years old" is equally curious: there are many thousands of trees in Glenfeshie, all under 30 years old, planted in blocks and temporarily fenced off to prevent damage by deer.

Public ownership and the elimination of sporting interests would do nothing for the native wildlife population, since it would be likely to remove the jobs of the gamekeepers and stalkers who are the natural guardians of those populations.

Any suggestion that the elimination of deer would help to regenerate the Caledonian pine would be impossible to fulfil, since deer are migratory. It would also be a curious policy for the World Wide Fund for Nature to advocate.

Yours sincerely,
HEW BALFOUR,
Ruchlaw House,
Stenton, Dunbar, East Lothian.

From Mr Duff Hart-Davis

Sir, During his 20-year ownership of the estate, from the mid-1960s to the mid-1980s, the late Lord Dulverton made enormous efforts to reafforest Glenfeshie, putting in numerous plantations and shelter-belts. It is true that most of the trees were exotic species, like sitka spruce and lodgepole pine, but he also got estate staff to collect seed from old Scots pines and to create a new plantation of the very species which constituted the ancient Caledonian forest.

The fact that the estate is now on the market for the third time in a few years reflects the great difficulty of managing a property in which outside environmental organisations have a say. In the words of a local stalker, the present owners are selling "because of the hassle caused by Scottish Natural Heritage and numerous other pumped-up bodies round about".

Yours sincerely,
DUFF HART-DAVIS,
Owlpen Farm, Uley, Gloucestershire.
October 14.

Languages in schools

From Mrs Hazel Burr

Sir, I wholeheartedly agree with Richard Branson's sentiments about ending the supremacy of French as the second language taught in schools (letters, October 8, 14).

My daughter is fortunate to attend an enlightened local girls' non-selective school where three languages — Spanish, French and German — are offered to both GCSE and A level.

However, we are now dismayed to find that several top universities, including York and Warwick, do not offer Spanish to degree level.

The world has certainly grown smaller, but unfortunately many of our young people will not be able to make themselves understood in a large part of it (unless they shout loudly in English, of course).

Yours sincerely,
HAZEL BURR,
49 Homersham Road,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.
h.burr@kingston.ac.uk
October 14.

From Mrs Jelena Radonjic

Sir, In the international recruitment marketplace any young engineer or economist is expected to have two or more languages in addition to their technical training or business qualification.

Right now, the hottest language is Japanese. Indeed, there is something of a gold rush on for Japanese speakers, as European and US banks gear up for the deregulation of the Japanese banking sector.

My advice on the best language for young people to study now is simple: Mandarin. Sooner than we think, Western companies are going to need a lot of young professionals who speak Mandarin and understand Chinese culture. But I don't think they will find too many of them here in Britain.

Yours sincerely,
JELENA RADONJIC
(Associate Managing Director),
The International Career Forum,
DICR Europe Ltd,
125 New Bond Street, W1.
October 14.

Mixed doubles

From Mr Geoffrey H. Lloyd

Sir, Your correspondent Paul Foster (letter, October 14) and his colleagues in the local tennis club appear to have got themselves into an unnecessary dilemma when the solution was obvious. Did they not consider the option to abandon the discount for married couples?

Presumably individual husbands and wives use the courts no less intensively than others in different relationships. And they may or may not love each other. What is the economic and moral justification for the concession?

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY H. LLOYD,
Longacre, 73 High Street,
Little Wilbraham, Cambridge.
October 15.

From Dr John Burscough

Sir, I suspect that few tennis clubs could organise a mixed doubles tournament if only partners who loved each other were allowed to play.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BURSCOUGH,
Woodland View, Melton Road,
Wrawby, Brigg, North Lincolnshire.
October 14.

An Ulster head

From Mr Jeffrey Dudgeon

Sir, I found it impossible to recognise the description of Campbell College, Belfast, in Stuart Peebles's letter (October 14), in revisionist praise of its headmaster, John Cook (obituary, October 2). I too was a pupil in the early Sixties, for five grim years, and recall speaking only once to Mr Cook — on the day I left.

Throughout those years a system of terror and punishment operated in the form of beatings inflicted by other boys. The teachers were freed from the task of enforcing discipline by these *kapos*, and tended as a consequence to indolence and cynicism.

The unadulterated snootiness of the school and its distance from all things local created a class of boys who could only see themselves as little Englanders, trapped in a 1920s timewarp, and incapable of modernising the Belfast Establishment from which most came.

Yours sincerely,
JEFFREY DUDGEON,
56 Mount Prospect Park, Belfast.
October 15.

Business letters, page 29

Many good tunes on new fiddles

From Lord Menuhin, OM

Sir, While I have been in Beijing conducting the excellent National Orchestra, my wife, Diana, who gleans *The Times* to keep me the better informed when I am away, reports a lively discussion on the matter of funding for good intruments for orchestral string players (report, October 13).

Great instruments of the 18th and even 19th centuries are admittedly beyond the reach of almost any string player. Partly owing to their astronomical prices there is a growing number of excellent, first-class violinmakers today, in England as elsewhere, who make a fair living on selling some ten violins a year at say £6,000-£8,000 each. I myself use a Glen Collins — but there are also others, some from the Newark Technical College.

It may surprise some orchestral musicians that among the fabled sumptuous-toned strings of the Philadelphia Orchestra there are some twenty violins from Sergio Peresson — a local maker near Philadelphia.

I have recorded the Brahms viola sonatas on a David Wiebe, and have given my school a cello and a viola by this excellent maker in Nebraska.

I would strongly urge donors or sponsors who would further these two arts in tandem — violin-making and violin-playing — to collect first-rate contemporary instruments and make them easily available, lending or on instalment purchase without interest, to such players as cannot afford a good instrument.

Sincerely,
YEHUDI MENUHIN,
As from, SYM Music Company,
PO Box 6160, London SW1W 0XJ.
October 14.

Brum culture

From Mr Stephen Wildman

Sir, While it is true that many famous Brummies, from Burne-Jones to Tony Hancock, left their native city for good to prosper in the capital (letters, October 8, 13), there is a notable exception in the painter David Cox (1783-1859), who returned from London to spend the last 18 years of his life in the then rural outskirts: Harborne.

Cox certainly achieved national recognition, and was rightly praised on his death by one leading magazine (*The Art Journal*) as having possessed "a genius as original as that of Turner". This was all the more remarkable in that he did indeed emanate from the heart of industrial Birmingham, having been born in Heath Mill Lane, Deritend, where his blacksmith father Joseph had a forge: a breeding ground for one romantic at least.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN WILDMAN
(Curator), Ruskin Library,
Lancaster University,
Lancaster LA1 4YH.
s.wildman@lancaster.ac.uk
October 13.

From Mr Jim Platts

Sir, The 1828 Charter of the Institution of Civil Engineers (the oldest professional engineering institution in the world) defines engineering as "the art of directing the great sources of power in nature for the use and convenience of man".

Engineering uses science and embodies an ethic, but it is an art — and Birmingham has many world-renowned exponents of that art. Wilf Morgan (letter, October 8) can lift his Brummie head with pride.

Yours faithfully,
JIM PLATTS,
Manufacturing Engineering Group,
Cambridge University,
Mill Lane, Cambridge.
mjp@eng.cam.ac.uk

Not out

From Mr Mike Johnson

Sir, Mr Trevor Davies (letter, October 7: see also letter, October 11) is not the only one to have had a bizarre experience with an answerphone.

I recently called someone on their car telephone, to be answered by a machine. The message was "I'm sorry, I'm at home at the moment, but if you leave a message I'll call you as soon as I go out."

Yours faithfully,
MIKE JOHNSON,
43 Melrose Avenue,
Wimbledon Park, SW19.
mikejohnson@btinternet.com
October 11.

Rowse remembered

From the Reverend David Copley

Sir, My brother-in-law once told me of a snippet of conversation he heard when he was passing two men talking to each other in Oxford. "But of course the later history of Sparta . . . " were the magic words.

With that in mind I thought I would pick up a wise word or two when one day in Oxford in the late 1940s I saw A. L. Rowse (obituary, October 6) deep in conversation with a companion coming towards me. As they passed I heard Rowse say: "Yes, my braces are always getting in a twist too."

Yours faithfully,
DAVID COPLEY,
220 Bromsgrove Road, Hunnington,
Halesowen, West Midlands.
October 12.

هكذا من الأصل

COURT CIRCULAR

TAJ COROMANDEL HOTEL
CHENNAI

The Queen this morning visited *MGR Film City, Chennai, watched a* film shooting and met representatives of the film industry.

Her Majesty afterwards visited the Kalakshetra Foundation, Thiruvanmiyur, and viewed dancing instruction and handicrafts and a short classical Indian dancing recital.

The Queen later attended a Luncheon at Fisherman's Cove.

Her Majesty this afternoon visited Ekambareswara Temple, Kanchipuram.

The Queen afterwards laid a Wreath at the Rajiv Gandhi Memorial.

Her Majesty this evening attended a Dinner given by the Governor of Tamil Nadu (Justice M. Fathima Beevi) at the Taj Coromandel Hotel.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning visited Western Naval Command, *Mumbai (Bombay)*.

His Royal Highness afterwards closed *the British Business Seminar* on board *HMS Westminster* and attended a Reception.

The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon flew to Dundigal and visited the Indian Air Force Academy, Hyderabad.

His Royal Highness afterwards visited Gogillapur Primary Schoool, *Andhra Pradesh*.

The Duke of Edinburgh later called *upon Shri Chandrababu Naidu (Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh) at Jubilee Hall, Hyderabad.*

His Royal Highness subsequently attended a Reception at Jubilee Hall.

His Excellency Mr Andrija Kojakovic was received in audience by The Prince of Wales and The Duke of York, Counsellors of State acting on behalf of The Queen, and presented the Letters of Recall of his *predecessor* and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador from the *Republic of Croatia to the Court of St* James's.

Mrs Kojakovic was *also* received by Their Royal Highnesses.

Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present.

The Queen was represented by Mr James Cropper (Her Majesty's Lord-*Lieutenant of Cumbria) at the Service* of Thanksgiving for the Life oif Major Sir Charles Graham, Bt, (formerly Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Cumbria) which was held in Carlisle Cathedral this afternoon.

The Duke of Edinburgh was *represented by the Earl of Lonsdale.*

The Princess Royal was represented by Mr Joseph Harris.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were represented by Dame Jean Maxwell-Scott.

The Duke of Kent was represented by Colonel Thomas Fitzalan Howard.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

October 16: The Duke of York, Patron, this evening attended a Piano Recital and Reception in aid of the Commonwealth Society for the Deaf *at St James's Palace.*

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

October 16: The Princess Royal, *Patron*, British Executive Service Overseas, this morning attended the Annual General Meeting and Annual Review Meeting at the Institute of *Directors*, Pall Mall, London, SW1.

Her Royal Highness this afternoon *opened the new headquarters* building for the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and *Principals* at Woburn House, Tavistock Square, London WC1.

The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, later attended the Industry and Commerce Group Meeting followed by a *Corporate Members Reception* at Buckingham Palace.

Her Royal Highness, accompanied by Captain Timothy Laurence RN, this evening attended a Dinner to commemorate the Battle of Camperdown, held by the Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785, in the Great Hall, Lincoln's Inn, London, WC2.

KENSINGTON PALACE

October 16: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President, was present today at the Annual Council Meeting of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children at the Society's Training Centre, Gilmour Close, Beaumont Leys, *Leicester, and was received by Her* Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire (Mr Timothy Brooks).

KENSINGTON PALACE

October 16: The Duke and Duchess of *Gloucester today departed Royal Air* Force Northolt to carry out engagements *in the Gulf States of Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.*

*Sir Roger Hervey (Special Repre*sentative of the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present and took leave of Their Royal Highnesses.

Miss Suzanne Marland is in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK

October 16: *Princess* Alexandra, accompanied by the Rt Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, today began a visit to *Phoenix, Arizona*, United States of America, in connection with the *UK/AZ Festival.*

Her Royal Highness and Sir Angus Ogilvy this morning visited AJ's Gourmet Market and subsequently attended a Reception given by the Mayor of Phoenix at Arizona Center Two.

Princess Alexandra and the Rt Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy this afternoon *visited stores in Scottsdale and later* attended the opening Reception for the Henry Moore Exhibition at the Joy Tash Gallery, North Marshall Way.

Her Royal Highness and Sir Angus Ogilvy this evening attended a *Swingle Singers Concert and Recep*tion at the Scottsdale Center for the Arts.

The Lady Mary Mumford is in attendance.

Royal engagement

The Princess *Royal*, as Colonel-in-Chief, the Royal Logistic Corps, will visit Vauxhall Barracks, Didcot, Oxfordshire at 10.00.

Joseph de Freitas, Associated Newspapers' head butler, in a re-creation of the office bar used by Jak, at a reception at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street, after a memorial service for the cartoonist there yesterday

Memorial services

Sir Charles Graham

The Queen was represented by Mr James Cropper, *Lord-Lieutenant of Cumbria*, and the Duke of Edinburgh by the Earl of Lonsdale at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Charles Graham, former Lord-Lieutenant of Cumbria, held yesterday in Carlisle Cathedral.

The Princess Royal was represented by Mr Joseph Harris, Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Cumbria, *Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester* and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester by Dame Jean *Maxwell-Scott* and the *Duke of Kent* by Colonel Thomas Fitzalan Howard.

The Dean of Carlisle officiated, assisted by the Right Rev *Lord* Runcie, who led the prayers. Sir James Graham, son, read the lesson and Mr Malise Graham, son, read *Influences* by Albert Schweitzer. Miss Arabella Graham, grand*daughter, read The Ship* by Bishop Brent.

The Right Rev H.D. Halsey gave an address and the Bishop of *Carlisle* pronounced the blessing.

The Lord-Lieutenants of Berwickshire, Dumfries, Essex, Greater Manchester and Lancashire attended and the Lord-Lieutenants of Northumberland, Tyne & Wear and North Yorkshire were *represented*.

The High Sheriff of Cumbria and Mrs Fryer-*Spedding, the Mayor and Mayoress of Carlisle* and representatives of other authorities in Cumbria attended. Among others present were:

Susan Lady Graham (widow), Miss Susanna Graham *(daughter), Lady Graham* and the Hon Mrs Graham (daughters-in-law), Miss Georgina Graham, Miss Catherine Graham, Miss Iona Graham, Miss Laura Graham and *Victoria* and *Robert Graham (grandchildren)*. Mr Ewen Cameron, Lady Jean Fforde, Sir Ian and Lady Fraser, Sir James and Lady Graham of Norton Conyers, Mr and Mrs Richard Graham, Mrs R H Graham-Vivian, the Master of Polwarth and the Hon Mrs *Hepburne-Scott, Mr and Mrs James Hepburne-Scott*, the Duchess of Leinster, the Duke of Montrose, Susan Duchess of Montrose, Mr and Mrs R Sandys-Clarke, Mrs J Spencer, Mrs John Surtees, Mrs A Surtees, Mrs Virginia Surtees, Mrs Peter Thomson-Glover, Mr Michael *Thomson-Glover and other members* of the family.

Major-General Earl and Countess Cathcart, the Earl and Countess of Lindsey, Viscount Campden, Viscount Rochdale, *Viscount Whitelaw, KT, CH, and Viscountess* Whitelaw, Viscount Lifford, Major-General Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard, Lord and Lady De Ramsey, Lord and Lady Terrington, Baroness Trumpington, Lord Laing of Dunphail, Elizabeth Lady Maclean, Lord Barnard, Lord *and Lady Cornwallis, Lord and Lady Henley*, Lord and Lady Hothfield, Lord and Lady Middleton, Lord Plumb, MEP, and Lady Plumb, Lord Cavendish of Furness, Lord and Lady Inglewood, Sir Hector and Lady Monro.

The Hon Mrs Cunliffe-Lister, the Hon Mrs Graves-Johnston, *the* Hon Mrs Martin Fortescue, Major the Hon Colin and Mrs Dalrymple, the Hon Mrs Sheila Hensman, the Hon Philip and Mrs Howard, Sir John and *Lady* Howard-Lawson, *Sir William and Lady* Dugdale, Sir Thomas and Lady Jackson, General Sir David and Lady Fraser, General Sir Michael Gow, Lady Nevile, Major-General Sir Digby and Lady Raeburn, Sir John Quicke, *Sir Giles Shaw*, Lady Burgess, Mr Charles and Lady Katherine Farrell, Mr Antony and Lady Elizabeth Leeming, Mr and the Hon Mrs Philip *Leatham, Mr and the Hon Mrs Paul Adorian.*

Lieutenant-Colonel F Burnaby-Atkins, Mrs Patrick Crichton-Stuart, Mr Charles Dunn, Brigadier and Mrs A G Heywood, Mr and Mrs A Hornyold, Mr and Mrs *David* Hughes, Major and Mrs *Peter* Johnson, Mr and Mrs Hugh Lawson, Mr and Mrs J Milne Home, *Mrs J Mundy, Mrs I M Rowcliffe, Mrs J Ward-Harrison*, Major and Mrs J Westoll, Mr Andrew White, Brigadier and Mrs C Armitage, Major and Mrs P Balfour, Mr and Mrs D L Bankes, Colonel and *Mrs A E Cameron*, Mr R A Carnegie.

Major N Chamberlayne-MacDonald, Mrs A Fletcher, Major and Mrs A D G Llewellyn, Mr Charles Mann, *Major and Mrs W N Seymour, Colonel and Mrs A G* Seymour, Mr J Shearer, Mr and Mrs A R G Stevenson, Commander and Mrs C J Balfour, Colonel M A Bell, Mr and Mrs *John* Crewdson, Mr C H Hirst, *Mrs I Isoley, Mr* and Mrs J D Lillingston, Mrs David Maclean, Mr and Mrs Giles Mounsey-Heysham, Mr J Norris, Mr M Pragnall, Mr I C Carr, Miss M E Chance.

Mr and Mrs S Crookenden, Mr J C Dunning, Major and *Mrs A J R Harrison, Colonel* and Mrs T Hodgson, Mrs T Hornyold-Strickland, Baron Georges Jacobs, Mr and Mrs W Lowther, Mr and Mrs T P Naylor, Major and Mrs T R Riley, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs *T I C Washington*, Mr and Mrs L Allgood, Mr and Mrs C H Bagot, Mrs C Baines, Mr and Mrs N Bankes, His Honour and Mrs Alistair Bell, Mrs M Birkett, Mr and Mrs J Blacket-Ord, Mrs A Bonsor, Mr H C F Bowring.

Mr and Mrs R Burgess, Mr J R Carr, Mr A F S Chance, Mrs M A Cook, Mrs A Cropper, Mrs M Dunne, Mrs C Elwes, Major and Mrs A Farrant, Mr E G Faulder, Mr and Mrs John Festing, Mr and Mrs T Fetherstonhaugh, Mr and Mrs W V Gubbins, Mrs H D Halsey, Mr and Mrs R B Hasell-McCosh, *Mr C Hudson*, Mrs Virginia Hurrell, Mr and Mrs J E Hutton, His Honour and Mrs Robert Leech, Mrs R Leeming, Mr and Mrs M Liddell, Mr and Mrs I Lowe, *Colonel and Mrs R K May.*

Major and Mrs R Murphy, Mr and Mrs J R Nichol, Ms J A Peel, Mr R Pickard, Mrs R E Powell, Mr and Mrs N Sale, Mr and Mrs M Sandys, Mrs Mervyn Sandys, Mr A W Scott-Harden, Mr and Mrs P Sharp, Mrs M Sykes, Mr and *Mrs D Thornely, Mr D W Trimble, Mrs A Weldon*, Mr and Mrs G Whalley, Mrs N Wingate, Mr and Mrs G O White, the Deputy Chief Constable of Cumbria, and many other friends, former colleagues and representatives of the Magistracy and other organisations.

Miss Genevra Caws, QC

The Lord Chief Justice and the Master of the Rolls attended a memorial service for Miss Genevra Caws, QC, held last night at the Temple Church. Canon *Joseph* Robinson, Master of the Temple, officiated. Lord Justice Schiemann and Mr Michael Page (uncle) read *the lessons*. Miss Elizabeth Appleby, QC, gave an address. Among others present were:

Mr James Curtis, QC (husband), Polly Curtis (daughter), Mrs Richard Caws (mother), Miss Zelly Caws (sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs Elan Caws (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Miss Wendy Everitt and other members of the family.

Miss Ann Kennedy (representing the Principal of Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford), Mrs Jacina Bird, Head Mistress of Falkner House School, and Mr Bird with other members of staff, representatives from the Chambers of Elizabeth Appleby, QC, and Michael Beloff, QC, the Chambers of M.D.I. Worsley, QC, the Bench of the Inner Temple, Help the Aged, the Office of Fair Trading, the *Governors of Notting Hill* and Ealing High School, members of the Bar, senior members of the judiciary and many other friends from London and Gloucestershire.

Mr Raymond Jackson (JAK)

A service of thanksgiving and celebration for the life of Mr Raymond Jackson (JAK), *cartoonist, was held yesterday at St Bride's*, Fleet Street. Canon John Oates officiated.

General *Sir Peter de la Billière* read the lesson. *Viscount* Rothermere, Chairman, Daily *Mail* and General Trust, read from the works of Joyce Grenfell. Mr Angus McGill paid tribute *and Mr Ned Sherrin* gave an address. Among others present were:

Mrs Jackson (widow), Mrs Polly Lester (*mother*), Mr Patrick Jackson (son), Miss Dominique Jackson *(daughter), Mr and Mrs Ray Stevens* (son-in-law and daughter).

Viscountess Rothermere, the Hon Jeremy Deedes (managing director, Telegraph Group also representing the Editor, *The Daily Telegraph*), Sir David English (*chairman*, Associated Newspapers) with Mr Murdoch MacLennan (managing director), Mr Vyvyan Harmsworth (director of corporate affairs) and Mrs Harmsworth, Mr Simon Dyson (finance director, Associated Newspapers) Mr Ian Pay (managing director, *Evening Standard*), the Hon Jonathan Harmsworth (deputy managing director), Mr Max Hastings (Editor, *Evening Standard*), Mr Peter Boyer (deputy editor, *Evening Standard*), *Mr Guy Zitter (managing director, Daily Mail)*, Mr Paul Dacre (Editor, *Daily Mail*), Mr Jonathan Holborow (Editor, *Mail on Sunday*), Mr Louis Kirby (Editor, *UK Mail*) with Mrs Kirby, with other members of the group.

Sir Gordon Reece, Lady Tucker, Mr and Mrs Gabriel Epstein, Mr and Mrs Marius Pope, Mr and Mrs Paddy Maloney, Mr and Mrs John Holmes, Mr and Mrs John Butler, Mr Derk Yolinnk, Mr Noel Bobham, Mr and Mrs Mike McMahon, Ms Harriet Walters, Miss Briony Walters, Miss Holly Walters, Mrs Sheila Walters, Mr Nigel Griffiths, Mr Craig Orr, Mr Peter McKay, Mr Nigel Dempster, Mr Richard Littlejohn, Mr Robin Esser, Mr *Steve Prior, Mr Ian Wooldridge, Mr and Mrs Sholto* Douglas-Home, Mr Peter Cunard, Mr Gay Kindersley, Mr Keith Waterhouse, Mr A N Wilson, Mac (Mr Stanley McMurtry), Matt (Mr Matt Pritchett), Mr Wat Tyler, Mr Simon Parker Bowles, Mr and Mrs Peter Dacre, Mr *Milton Shulman, Mr Geoffrey Wheatcroft, Mr D Berry*, Mr Michael Noakes, Mr Doug London, Mr Bill Caldwell, Mrs Maureen Cleave, Mr Alexander Shihwarg, Mr Adam Edwards.

Mr Paul Callan (Daily Express), Mr Alden Flannery *(Parliamentary Review)*, Mr John Jenson and Mr Mark Bryant (British Cartoonists' Association), Mr John Inge (Knight Frank), Mr Gerald Bartlett (Bartlett Associates), Mr Alan Zipeure (British Judo Association), *Mrs Wendy* Mead (Save Barts Campaign), Mr John Bromley (Saints and Sinners Club), Mr Bernard Coral (Wig and Pen Club), Mrs Valerie Howarth (Sir Robert McAlpine), Mr Graham Ogilvie (Alexander Easton Kirch), Mr Mike Dawes (*the Wells Partnership*) with *Mrs Wells, Mr Ron* McTrusty, Mr Patrick Blower, Mr Christian Adams, Mr Richard Brooks, representatives of Queen's Gate School, the 22 Black Pudding Club, and many other friends and former colleagues.

Birthdays today

Mr Colin Bailey, Chief Constable, Nottinghamshire, 54; Mr Harry Carpenter, sports commentator, 72; Sir Sydney Chapman, MP, 62; Mr Jonathan Charkham, former adviser to the Governor of the Bank of England, 67; Dr Alexander Cooke, physician, 98; the Earl of Dalhousie, KT, 83; Mr Shaun Edwards, *rugby* league player, 31; Lady Marion Fraser, chairman, Christian Aid, 65; Mr Alan Garner, author, 63; Sir Ralph Gibson, former Lord Justice of Appeal, 75; *Sir Christopher Harding, chair*man, Legal and General, 58; Mrs Ann Jones, tennis player, 59; Miss Margot Kidder, actress, 49; Lord Kilbracken, 77; Mr Stephen *Kovacevich, pianist*, 57; Sir Cameron Mackintosh, musical producer, 51; Mr Arthur Miller, playwright, 82; Mr A. W. Rudge, FRS, chairman, Engineering and *Physical Sciences Research Coun*cil, 60; Mr Victor Serebriakoff, honorary president, Mensa International, 85; Mr B.D. Taylor, former chief executive, Glaxo *Holdings*, 62.

Dinners

Middle Temple

The Lord Chancellor attended a dinner given by *Lord Nicholls of* Birkenhead, Treasurer of the Middle Temple, and the Masters of the Bench last night in hall, it being Grand Day of Michaelmas Term. Among others present were:

Viscount Rothermere, Lord Lane, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord *Cooke of* Thorndon, Lady Nicholls, Sir Stephen Brown, Sir Richard Scott, Lord Justice Staughton (treasurer, *Inner Temple*), Lord Justice Peter Gibson, Dame Rosalyn Higgins, FBA, QC, Sir Maurice Drake (treasurer, *Lincoln's Inn*), Air Chief Marshal Sir John Allison, *Sir* John Freeland, QC, Sir John Lyons, FBA, Judge *Eayr Lewis, QC (treasurer, Gray's Inn)*, Professor P N Love, Miss Patricia Routledge, Mr Michael Noakes, Mrs Vivien Noakes, Canon Joseph Robinson, Mr A W Waterworth, Mr Andreas Whittam Smith and Brigadier C T J Wright (under treasurer).

Lord Mayor

The Lord Mayor entertained *representatives from* commerce and industry, city institutions and business, public services and the media and their escorts at the City banquet held last night at the *Mansion House. The Lord Mayor*, Mr Nicholas Durlacher, Chairman of the Securities and Futures Authority, and Ms Rita Clifton, Vice-Chairman and Executive *Planning Director of Saatchi &* Saatchi Advertising, were the speakers.

Members of the Court of Aldermen, the Chief Commoner and Members of the Court of Common Council attended. During the evening the *Lord Mayor presented* the Dragon Awards, the Lord Mayor's awards for business involvement in the community, to:

The Bankers Trust Company, BT Personal Communications Division and *the NatWest Group.*
Special business award: Warwick Wright Motors.
London Partnership award: National Tenants Resource Centre.
Special City award: Lloyd's Community Programme.
Special Certificate: John Laing.

The Anchorites

Field Marshal Lord Bramall, KG, *Lord-Lieutenant of Greater* London, was the principal guest at the monthly dinner of the Anchorites held last night at the Café Royal. Commodore A.D. Barrett, *president, was in the* chair.

Marketors' Company

Mr David Thomas, Master of the *Marketors' Company*, presided at the Bowden dinner held last night at Vintners' Hall. Mr Bill Emmott, Editor of *The Economist*, and Dr Roger Hood, Senior Warden, also spoke. *During dinner*, The Master presented awards to:

Miss Alison Knight for best performance in the diploma course of the Chartered *Institute of Marketing*, and the 1997 marketors' award was made to Major F.G.L. Jeffery for outstanding and long service to 151 (Greater London) Support Regiment, Royal Logistic Corps (Volunteers), the company's adopted regiment.

FMA

Mr John Davies, President of the Fertiliser *Manufacturers* Association, presided at the annual dinner held last night at the Savoy *Hotel. Mr Bernard Brentnall* was the principal guest and speaker.

Society of Stipendiary Magistrates for England and Wales

The Society of Stipendiary Magistrates for England and Wales held its Annual Meeting and Dinner on Friday, October 10, 1997, at the Middle Temple. Mr Peter Badge and Mr Graham Parkinson, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, were guests of the Society.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.M. Brunt
and Miss H.M.A. Otley

The engagement is *announced* between John, son of Dr Rod Brunt, of Bath, and Mrs Patricia Mitchell, also of Bath, and Henrietta, elder daughter of Mr Tom Otley, of Marlborough, Wiltshire, and *Mrs Kate Noble*, of Bath. The marriage will take place in Sydney, Australia, on *November 8, 1997.*

Mr D.J. Deeny, QC,
and Miss A.J. Scott

The engagement is announced between Donnell, younger son of the late Dr Donnell Deeny and *of* Mrs Annie Deeny, of Banford House, Gilford, Co Down, and *Alison, younger* daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Scott, of Rathdowney, Rosslare, Co Wexford.

Mr I.S. Duncan
and Miss A.M. Mackenzie

The engagement is *announced* between Stuart, elder son of Mr Eric Duncan, of Worcester, and *Mrs Joyce Duncan*, of Droitwich, Worcestershire, and Alison, elder daughter of *Mr and Mrs Iain* Mackenzie, of Droitwich, Worcestershire.

Mr J. Dwyer
and Miss A.M. Sachs

The engagement is announced between Jay, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Dwyer, of Long *Island*, New York, and Alice, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jon Sachs, of *Newton Abbot, Devon*, formerly of Albury, Hertfordshire.

Mr D.J. Garner
and *Miss J.A. Rowe*

The engagement is announced between David, son of Sir Anthony and *Lady Garner*, of Seer Green, Buckinghamshire, and Jacquelyne, daughter of *Mr* and *Mrs Grant Rowe, of Sandilands*, South Australia.

Mr J.N. Kindlon
and Miss C.L. Smith

The engagement is announced between Jason, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Brendan Kindlon, of *Cold Ash, Newbury*, and Claudine, younger daughter of Mr Ivan Smith, of Sowton Village, Exeter, and *of Mrs Christopher* Salt, and stepdaughter of Mr Christopher Salt, of Kintbury, Berkshire and Islington.

Mr P.J. Murrell
and *Miss C.L. Whitaker*

The engagement is announced between Paul James, younger son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Murrell, of Moulton, Suffolk, and Claire Louise, daughter of *Mr and Mrs* Henry Whitaker, of Arundel, West Sussex.

Mr R. Scollard
and Miss P.J. Hunter

The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Scollard, of Carshalton, *Surrey*, and *Pamela* Jean, only daughter of Mr and Mrs James Hunter, of Enfield, *Middlesex.*

Mr S.J. Sebag-Montefiore
and Miss S. Palmer-Tomkinson

The engagement is announced between Simon Jonathan, youngest son of *Dr and Mrs* Stephen Sebag-Montefiore, of Upham, Hampshire, and Santa, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles Palmer-Tomkinson, of Dummer, Hampshire.

Reed's School

Mr Brian Winterflood presided at a luncheon yesterday to launch the Reed's School 184th Annual Foundation Appeal, which was held at Grocers' Hall by kind permission of the *Grocers'* Company Master, the Hon Seymour Fortescue. The *Chairman of the School Trustees*, Viscount Bridgeman, and the Headmaster, Mr D.W. Jarrett, also spoke to the 130 guests.

British Maritime Charitable Foundation

Countess Mountbatten of Burma, Honorary President of the British Maritime Charitable Foundation, was present at the Annual Thanks*giving Service held at All Hallows*-by-the-Tower yesterday for the lives of "those who have lost their lives at sea and have no known grave". Canon Peter Delaney, Vicar of All Hallows, officiated. Relatives of those entered in the Memorial Book with representatives of maritime organisations were among those present.

Service dinners

Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785

The Princess Royal was the principal guest at a dinner of the Royal Navy Club *of 1765 and* 1785 held last night at Lincoln's Inn to mark the 200th anniversary of the *Battle* of Camperdown. Admiral Sir Jock Slater, First Sea Lord, presided.

Royal Artillery

Field Marshal Lord Vincent of Coleshill, Master Gunner, St James's Park, presided at the *Royal Artillery Alamein dinner* held last night in Woolwich. Among those present were:

The High Commissioner for Canada and Mrs MacLaren, Sir Brian and Lady Moffat, Mr J Holland, Commander and Mrs J M C Maughan, Vice-Admiral and Mrs Norman Ray, Mr and Mrs E J Pearson, Mr and Mrs Nick Raynsford, Mr and Mrs *Ian Robertson and Major*-General and Mrs Philip Trousdell.

The Light Infantry

Major-General *Jack Deverell* presided at the annual dinner of The Light Infantry Club held last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club.

Royal Fusiliers Officers' Club

Major-General B.C. Webster, Chairman of the Royal Fusiliers Officers' Club, presided at the annual dinner held last night at *HM Tower of London.*

Adjutant General's Corps

The officers of the Adjutant General's Corps dined last night in *their Headquarter Mess at Worthy* Down. Major-General Richard Oliver, OBE, Assistant Colonel *Commandant*, presided. *Mrs* Lindsay Fox, JP, High Sheriff of Hampshire, General Sir Alex *Harley*, KBE, CB, Adjutant General, Mr Keith Simpson, MP, and Lieutenant-Colonel James Athill, RGJ, were among the guests, as were a number of officers recently commissioned into the Corps.

Company of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators

The following have been installed officers of the Company of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators for the ensuing year:

Master, Rear-Admiral James Carine; Senior Warden, Group Captain John H. Constable; Junior Warden, Mr Wilfred C. Hammond.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: *John Wilkes*, political reformer, London, 1727; Claude Henri, Comte de St-Simon, pio*neer of socialism in France, Paris,* 1760; Georg Büchner, dramatist, Goddelau, Germany, 1813; Herbert Howells, composer, Sydney, 1892; Nathanael West, novelist, *New York, 1903; Rita Hayworth*, actress, New York, 1918.

DEATHS: Sir Philip Sidney, soldier and poet, Zutphen, The Netherlands, 1586; René Réamur, scientist, St-Julien-du-Terroux, *1757; George Colman the Younger*, actor, Kensington, 1836; Frédéric Chopin, composer, Paris, 1849; Gustav Robert Kirchoff, physicist, Berlin, 1887; Patrice MacMahon, *President of France 1873-79, Châ*teau La Fôret, 1890; Julia Howe, feminist, writer and reformer, Newport, Rhode Island, 1910; Sir Michael Balcon, film producer, *Hartfield, Sussex, 1977; S.J.* Perelman, humorist, 1979.

Charles II, defeated by Oliver *Cromwell at Worcester, fled to* France, 1651.

A steel-making process was pat*ented by Sir Harry Bessemer*, 1855.

The Queen opened Calder Hall, Britain's first nuclear power station, 1956.

Receptions

HM Government

Lord Clinton-Davis, Minister for *Trade, was the host at a reception* given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at Lancaster House to mark five years of the United States Marketing Scholar*ships Programme.*

Fruiterers' Company

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by Mr Sheriff and *Mrs* Michael Oliver, received Mr Derek Tullett, Master of the Fruiterers' Company, *the Wardens and Members* of the Livery at a reception held yesterday at the Mansion House for the annual presentation of fruit which was later distributed to the *sick and needy of the City. After*wards the Master, Wardens and Liverymen were received by Lord *Justice Staughton, Treasurer of the* Inner Temple, the Reader and *Masters of the Bench. The Master* planted a fig tree in the gardens of the Inner Temple.

British Safety Council

Mr Iain Coleman, MP, was the host at a reception held yesterday *at the House of Commons* for the British Safety Council's International Diploma in Health and Safety Management.

Portland Hospital

Mrs Susan Smith, Chief Executive of the Portland Hospital for Women and Children, was the host at a reception *held last night* at the Royal Society of Medicine to mark the 10th anniversary of the *fertility unit. Mr Marcus Setchell*, Professor Peter Braude and Professor Lynn Fraser were the speakers.

Appointment

***Coroners' Society of England* and Wales**

Mr Rodney Hunter Gordon *Corner*, HM Coroner of Milton Keynes, has been elected President of the *Coroners' Society of England* and Wales for the ensuing year in succession to Dr Richard *Whittington, HM Coroner* of West Midlands, Birmingham and Solihull.

Lecture

Lord Armstrong of Ilminster delivered the annual Brigadier Peter Pepper *memorial lecture to the* London Goodenough Trust for Overseas Graduates last night at Mecklenburgh Square.

Latest wills

Sir Geoffrey Paul **Hardy-Roberts**, Master of Her Majesty's Household 1967-73, Extra Equerry *to the* Queen since 1967, of West Lavington, Midhurst, West Sussex, left estate valued at £243,868 *net*.

He left £1,000 each to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, Friends of King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst, and Fittleworth Youth Club.

Professor David **Keith-Lucas**, of Emberton, *Olney, Buckingham*shire, left estate valued at £647,167 net.

Margery Olive *Mooring* **Aldridge**, of London W14, left estate valued at £1,591,208 net.

She left £40,000 to The Prince Consort Foundation, *Royal College of Music*, along with her collection of books on *music and her music.*

Archibald Gordon **Friend**, of Amesbury, Salisbury, Wiltshire, *left estate* valued at £1,308,380 net.

He left £1,000 to Keble College, Oxford; £500 to the Great City Lodge and to the Inns of Court Chapter.

Eleanor Gibbon **Martin**, of Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, left estate valued at £4,930,721 net.

She left £5,000 to the RSPCA.

Muriel **Curry**, of Corfe Castle, *Wareham, Dorset, left estate* valued at £3,104,787 net.

Allan **Earnshaw**, of Rawtenstall, *Rossendale, Lancashire*, left estate valued at £1,665,890 net.

PERSONAL COLUMN

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

> Evil is like witchcraft: it dims the radiance of good, and the waywardness of desire unsettles an innocent mind.
> Wisdom of Solomon 4 : 12

BIRTHS

ALLEN BILLS - On October 14th, 1997, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital to Wendy and Graham, a son, Raoul Cosmo, a brother for Liberty and Amity.

BAILEY. On 15th October to Jane (nee Calnan) and Mark, a daughter, Josephine May, a sister for Katharine.

BURROUGH - On October 13th, to Philippa (née *Collyer*) and Bryan, a son (Leo Edward Bruce).

CLARK - On October 10th at *The Portland Hospital to* Robin and Bernie, a *daughter*, Cassidy Elizabeth.

DAKIN - On October 13th *1997, to Victoria* (née Hunt) and Jon, a daughter, Flora Elizabeth.

DAY-LUNN - On October 11th at The Portland Hospital to Suzanna and Francis, a darling daughter, Clara Margaret Ottilie.

GAY - On October 13th 1997, to Rachel and Shaun, a son Oscar, a brother for Jack.

HULMES - On October 13th *1997*, to Claire and Iain, a son, Andrew Maitland, a brother for Robert.

KING - On Friday 3rd October *1997* to *Louise* (née Dalton) and Rupert, a daughter, Polly Clare.

LANG - On Thursday 9th October *1997* at Kirkcaldy to Isabel, wife of John Mitchell Lang, a son, James Alexander. Both well, thank you to all staff at Forth Park Maternity Hospital.

LAURENCE - On 14th October 1997 to Rosanna, (née *Lloyd-Roberts*) and Robert, a son, Hugh Jonathan Isaac, a brother for Charles, Catherine and Henry.

LUTTRELL - On Thursday 16th October at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Buckinghamshire to Carmel (née Molan) and Simon, a beautiful daughter, Heidi Elise Siena.

MEYNELL - On October 16th at St Mary's Hospital Paddington, to Joanna and Luke, a daughter.

NICHOLSON - On 12th October 1997, to Martha (née Briscoe) and Colin, a son, Bertram (Bertie) George Douglas, a brother for Archie, Amelia and Violet.

PINI - On October 15th at The *Portland Hospital to* Francesca (née Costa) and *Pierpaolo*, a daughter Olivia.

RITSON - On 8th October, to Verena (née Barran) and William, a son, Harry William, a brother for Alice.

SCANLON - On October 11th at The Portland Hospital to *Alison (née Keal)* and Gary a son, Jake Alexander Gary, a beautiful boy.

SHEVES - On 12th October at *Colchester General Hospital*, to Sara (née Lodge) and *Andrew, a daughter, Harriet* Jacqueline Lindsey.

STURMAN - On October 12th at The Portland Hospital to Mara and Jim a son, Michael Edwin Mullaney, a brother for Ruby.

WELLS - On September 26th, 1997, to Casey and Nigel, a daughter, Charlotte Phoebe.

DEATHS

ARKLE - Phyllis (née *Griffiths*), on *10th October* 1997, peacefully, aged 87. Children's author. Beloved wife of the late Edward Arkle. Greatly loved by all her family and friends. Funeral Service, Monday October 20th at Reading Crematorium at 11.30am. Family flowers only, donations, if desired, to the N.S.P.C.C. c/o A.B. Walker and Son Ltd, 36 Eldon Road, Reading, RG1 4DL.

CAMDEN - Diana Mae died peacefully at home on 10th October after a short illness. She will be sadly missed by her two daughters, family *and friends, who loved* her dearly. Her funeral service will be at St Mary's Church, Thorpe, Surrey, on Tuesday 21st October at 11 am, followed by a reception in the Rutherwyke Room, adjacent to the Church. Flowers, donations and enquiries to F Harrison & Son, 40 Harvest Road, Englefield Green, Surrey. Tel: 01784 432163

DURY - Nancy (*née Ralston*) peacefully, on 16th October at the age *of 94*. Much loved, "Mo" will be sadly missed by Ann, Susan and Mark and her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Cremation private followed by Service of Thanksgiving on Thursday 23rd October at 11.30 a.m. at Holy Trinity Church, Church Crookham, Hampshire. Flowers to Kemp & Stevens Tel. 01420 83177.

FAULDER - Geoffrey Arthur, *died suddenly at home* in Hornchurch, Essex on 13th October 1997 aged 62. Managing Director of the Corporate Intelligence Group. Beloved husband of Angela and dear brother *of* Joyce. Funeral *Mass* to be held at St. Thomas' Church, Brentwood on Thursday 23rd October at 12.00 noon. Family *flowers* only but donations, if desired, can be made to the British Heart Foundation and sent c/o Bennetts (Brentwood) Ltd *120 High Street, Brentwood*, Essex CM14 4AS.

GERRATT - On October 16th 1997 Dr. Joseph Gerratt Fellow of The Royal *Academy of Chemistry* and Reader of Bristol University *died at home in Bristol after* a very short illness. All friends are invited to join the family for a Memorial Service at the department of Chemistry, Bristol University, Sunday November 2nd at 12.00 noon. Home (0117) 9735786 (0117) 9288312 Mike Ashfold, Bristol University (0117) 9288313 Sue Williams.

GOOZEE - On *14th October* 1997 peacefully at her home *in* Middleton Stoney, Margarite Violet Goozee. Much loved wife, mother and grandmother. Funeral Service at All Saints Church, Middleton Stoney on Tuesday 21st October 1997 at 11.30 am followed by burial in the Churchyard. Family flowers only, donations if desired to, All Saints Church, Middleton Stoney c/o L Hartness Funeral Directors, 11 Victoria Road, Bicester, Oxon.

GOULD-MARKS M.C. - Langton Alfred Francis, aged 87, died peacefully after a brief illness, on Tuesday 14th October 1997. Private Funeral. No flowers please. *Memorial Service* later. Enquiries to *29* Kelly St, *London, NW1 8PG.*

GRUNDY - *Peacefully after* painful illness bravely borne, on 15th October aged 87, Gerald C. N. (Bill), beloved husband of the late Nora, father of Isobel, Janet and John, grandfather of Katy, William, Daniel, Emily and Jessica, *founder* with *Nora of Perrott Hill School*, North Perrott Somerset. Cremation at Putney Vale Crematorium on Thursday, 23rd October at 11.00 am and afterwards at his daughter Janet's house. Enquiries to (0181) 946 1563. Family *flowers* only. Donations, *if wished*, to Friends of the Elderly, 42 *Ebury Street*, SW1W 0LZ. A Memorial Service for Bill and Nora will be held at North Perrott at a later date.

HARBOTTLE - Mary Yolande, on *October 13th 1997*, aged 82, in Goldsborough Nursing Home. *Suddenly after many years of suffering faced with great courage and dignity*, greatly loved, eldest daughter *of* the late Arthur and Edith Harbottle and very dear sister of the late Sheila and of Anne Carr. Service at Christchurch Cockfosters, on 24th October 1997, at 2.00pm followed by cremation at Marylebone Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations to King George's Fund for Sailors, would be much appreciated and may be sent to J H Kenyon, 6 Woodhouse Road, North Finchley, London, N12 0RG.

HARTLEY - Charles William Stewart on 14th October *1997*, peacefully at Horsfall House, Minchinhampton, Glos., aged 86. Beloved husband of the late Marie Zoyla Hartley, father of Margaret, Doreen, Denis and Lillias. Requiem Mass at The Priory Church of the Annunciation, South Woodchester on Wednesday 22nd October at 11 am followed by private cremation. Family flowers only but *donations if* desired for the Cotswold Care Hospice, Burleigh, Stroud, Glos. Requiescat in pace.

KENT - Dr. Anthony E. (Tony) died suddenly at home on October 11th. Funeral Service at Grantham Crematorium on Monday October 20th at 2 pm. *Family* flowers only but donations *if desired for The* Nottinghamshire Wild Life Trust. Donations and enquiries to E.G. Darke Funeral Director, Main Street, Carlton-on-Trent, Newark, Notts., NG23 6NW. Tel: (01636) 821278.

LEYCESTER - Joan. Peacefully on 12th October 1997 in Durban. Much loved mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

LONG - Edith. Peacefully in Glen Arun Nursing Home, Horsham on 14th October 1997, aged 91 years. Formerly of Camberwell. Funeral Service Tuesday 21st October, 1997, at St. Mary's Parish Church, Horsham, at *2.00pm* followed by cremation. *Enquiries to Freeman* Brothers, Funeral Directors. Tel: 01403 254590.

MICHIE - On 16th October peacefully at Barton House Nursing House, Netley, Violet Mercedes. Dearly loved wife of Air Commodore Donald Michie of Hamble, dear mother *of Duncan*, mother-in-law of Jillie and grandmother of Rupert and Jasper. Funeral Service at Southampton Crematorium, East Chapel on 22nd October at 12 noon. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Barton House. Enquiries to F C Hughes. Tel: 01489 782404.

PEARSON - On October 12th, *peacefully* at Rumbling Bridge, Brigadier Barclay, D.S.O., D.L., late the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, aged 85. Husband of the late Heather and father of Richenda. Funeral service at St. Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church, The Muirs, Kinross, on Tuesday *21st October* at 2.00pm, Interment thereafter.

PELLING - On Tuesday 14th October in Cambridge, Henry Mathieson Pelling, *Litt. D.*, F.B.A., Fellow of St John's College Cambridge, sometime College Lecturer *in History, Emeritus Reader* in Recent British History. Funeral *Service* on Wednesday 22nd October at *11.30 am in the Chapel of St* John's College, Cambridge.

SIMS - Donald Montagu aged 83, on 13th October, 1997 at home. Dearly loved husband of Mary and much loved father to Wendy, Nonie and Heather. Will be missed by all his family. Family flowers only, but donations *if* wished to RNLI, c/o Paul Bysouth Funeral Services, Crowborough. (01892) 655000.

SOUTHWARD - Sir Ralph KCVO, on October 16th, peacefully at home, beloved husband of Peggy, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Private Funeral, Memorial *Service to be* announced at a later date.

TEMPROS - *Hector*. Born 3rd September 1906, died 16th October 1997. Dearest Hector you have been much loved and will be sorely missed.

THOMAS - Brian Frank Warren, died peacefully on October 13th 1997, much loved husband of Ruth and loving father to Sue, Andrew and Kate. He will be greatly missed by his wife, children, grandchildren, family and friends. Funeral Service at Canford Crematorium, Canford Lane, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, at 2.30pm, on Wednesday 22nd October 1997. Flowers c/o E Davies & Son, 63 Westbury Hill, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.

THOMPSON - On 16th October at Hazelmere Nursing Home, Bexhill, Joyce Dieudonée, aged 93, dear widow of Teddy, mother of Tricia and Tim, grandmother and great-grandmother. Private *cremation. No flowers or* letters please; but donations *if desired to R.S.P.C.A.*, Causeway, Horsham, W. Sussex RH12 1HG.

TYLOR - Maud Scrimgeour, of Iping, Midhurst, Sussex. Peacefully on October 15th 1997, at Midhurst, aged 85 years. Widow of *Vivian* Alfred Tylor M.C. and much loved mother of John and Paul. Funeral Service at Stedham Parish Church, near Midhurst, on Wednesday 22nd October at 3pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Stedham and Iping Church. *C/o L.P. Lintott* and Son, North Street, Midhurst, West Sussex. GU29 9DG. Tel: 01730 813264.

WREN - Isola (née Strong) on October 4th. Cherished wife of the late Freckles. She gave her time gladly to the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, and delighted in her involvement with The Shakespeare Reading Society. At her request the funeral has taken place. Donations for CRISIS or MENCAP may be sent to Kenyons, 0171 229 3810.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

CUMMINGS - Ivor G. OBE died 17th October 1992. Always in our thoughts. Family.

BIRTHDAYS

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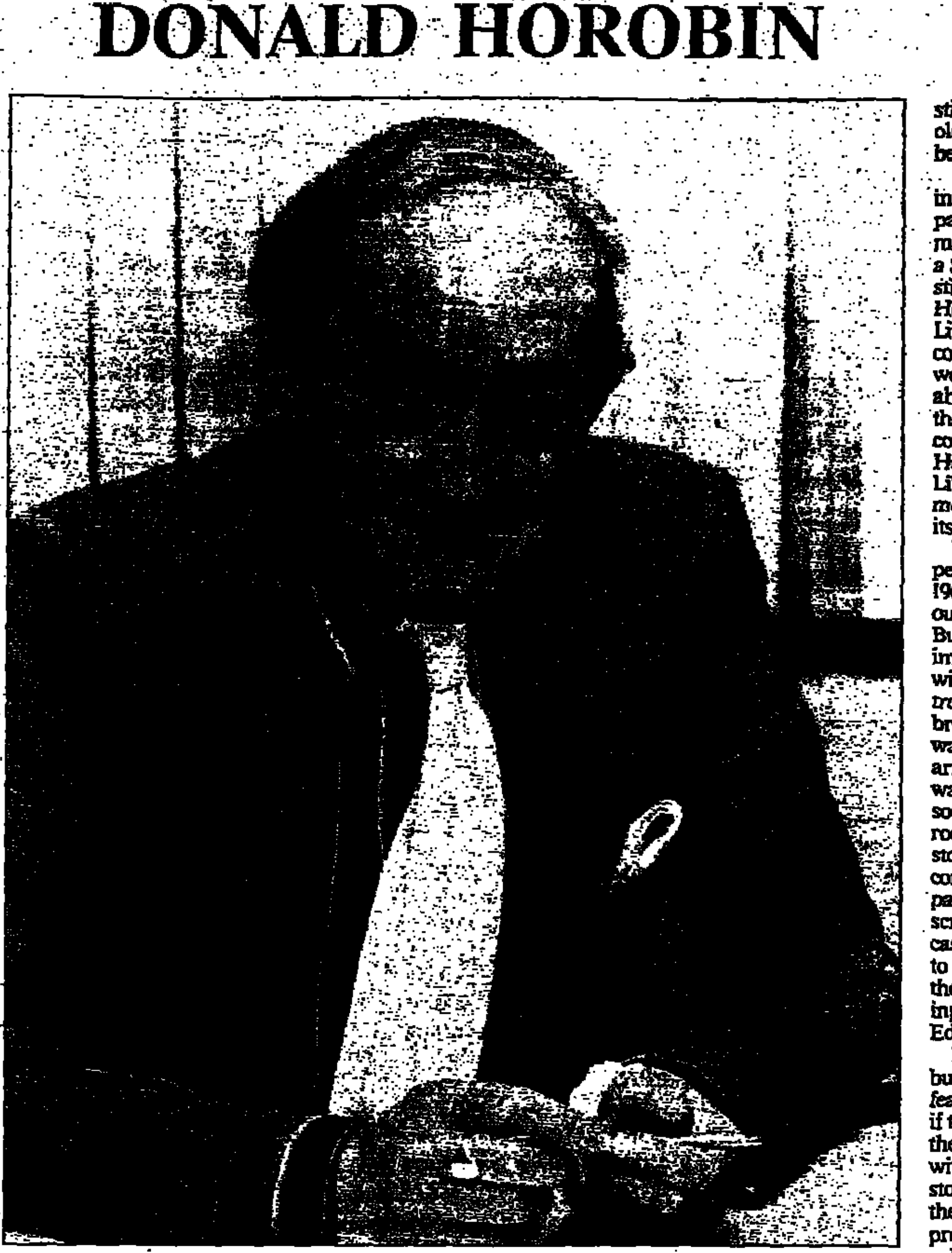
DONALD HOROBIN



Donald Horobin, former Deputy Editor of ITN, died in Somerset on October 14 aged 76. He was born on July 7, 1921.

Donald Horobin was one of the great news editors of the old school: tough, tenacious, with an intuitive nose for news that sometimes bordered on the paranormal. When he foresaw some development occurring in a running story, he would say: "I can feel it in my water." Many newscasters and senior correspondents on various channels who are household names today served their pupillage under Don Horobin. He was an outstanding motivator of journalists.

Horobin's journalistic career began after the war, when he saw service in Royal Navy minesweepers. In 1960 Sir Geoffrey Cox, then Editor of ITN, recruited him from *The Birmingham Despatch*. It was at a time when Sir Geoffrey was hardening up ITN's news edge with recruitment from Fleet Street and provincial newspapers.

For the next two decades Horobin was the prime force in organising ITN's newsgathering over a period when the British people turned to television as their main source of the news of the day. It was the time of the Vietnam War, two Middle East wars; the anti-nuclear and civil rights movements in Europe and America; the turbulence throughout southern Africa; the start of the Northern Ireland Troubles; and, towering over it all, the tensions of the Cold War.

With the dawn of the satellite age, which enabled television news to report today's news today from faraway places, he was an early advocate of the half-hour news. The short bulletins were no longer an adequate vehicle.

The birth of *News at Ten* in July 1967 gave reporters the chance to let their stories breathe in a bit more space. Horobin was one of the midwives, who brought into being what is now known as the reporter package. He helped to make *News at Ten* a reporter's medium, which it remains today.

He had a passionate loyalty to ITN. He never gave up on a story. He covered all the angles and sidebars. Like many great journalists, he was an artist on the telephone, sweet-talking his way past obstructive gatekeepers to reach his desired contact.

He sometimes handled his team with the air of a provost marshal. But anyone else who criticised his reporters risked Horobin's fierce defence of his people. If any of his reporters was in trouble anywhere in the world, he would leave no stone unturned to help.

He had a good nose for spotting talent in reporters and news editors. He looked for growth: that was his key word. Any reporter who won Horobin's approval with "Good story, matey," felt decorated with a medal of honour. He had a way of administering sharp doses of reality for anyone in danger of vanity, which sometimes comes from appearing on screen in millions of households every night. After a dressing-down to some defaulter, he would say sympathetically to his fellow executives: "If they weren't Newmarket thoroughbreds, they wouldn't be worth employing."

Once, in the pre-satellite age, when a lone survivor came ashore in a remote part of Iceland after a British trawler was lost, Horobin chartered a BAC 111 airliner before breakfast to go to Iceland. It brought back a vivid account from the survivor to lead that night's *News at Ten*, and every paper next day had to follow ITN's story.

In 1967 he organised an ITN hunt for the Loch Ness Monster and was the first to assign a submarine to explore the 800ft deep loch. The sub filmed muskets on the loch bottom, thrown away by Highlanders fleeing Culloden, but Nessie shunned the sub. The story of that summer is still the stuff of legend when old ITN hands gather over a beer.

On another occasion, during the 1966 election campaign, he wanted to film a main party leader speaking in a South London marginal constituency. It was pointed out to Horobin that there was no Liberal Party activity in the constituency that day, so ITN would fall foul of the rules about balance and fairness if the other two parties were covered and no Liberals. Horobin persuaded the local Liberals to hold a streetside meeting so that ITN could get its balance.

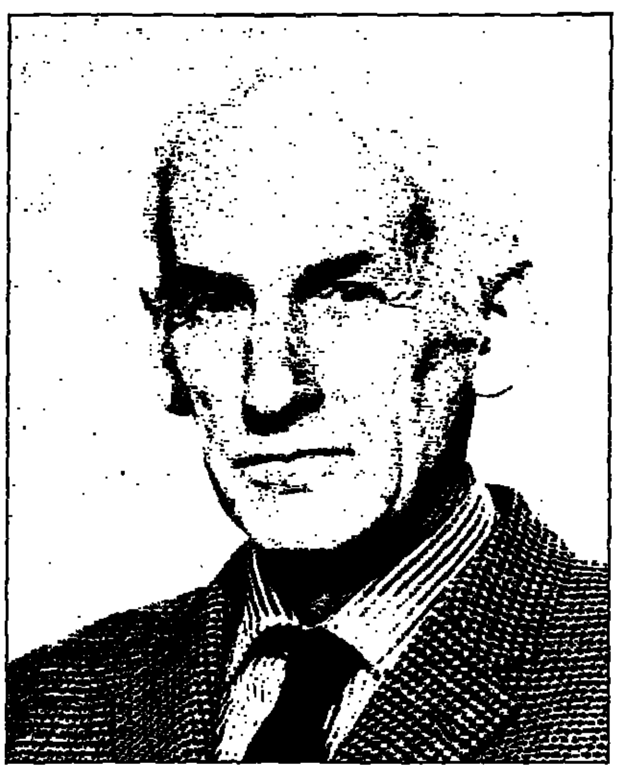
When the Queen was expecting her fourth child in 1964, the plan was to deploy an outside broadcast unit outside Buckingham Palace to break into scheduled programmes with a live newsflash. The trouble was that an outside broadcast unit in those days was roughly the size of an armoured brigade so there was reluctance to deploy too soon. Horobin, in the newsroom, suddenly said he had a stomach ache and he was convinced he was having sympathetic birth pains. He scrambled the outside broadcast, which arrived just in time to film the notice being put on the Palace railings announcing the arrival of Prince Edward.

Under Horobin's zeal, ITN built up a tradition of covering feats of exploration, especially if they were British. The top of the programme so often dealt with death and disaster: the story of human endeavour at the end of the programme provided an upbeat leaven.

ITN cameras accompanied Chris Bonington's Himalayan conquests. There was an ITN camera aboard the rowing boat when John Ridgeway and Chay Blyth rowed across the Atlantic. Horobin arranged exclusive coverage of John Fairfax's singlehanded rowing across the Pacific. He organised coverage of Sir Ranulph Fiennes's early exploits and the round-the-world voyage of Sir Francis Chichester.

Don Horobin retired from ITN as deputy editor in 1984. He married his wife Denise in 1945 and is survived by her and their three sons and a daughter.

PROFESSOR TOM EWER



Tom Ewer, OBE, Professor of Animal Husbandry at Queensland University, 1950-61, and Bristol University, 1961-77, died on October 3 aged 86. He was born on September 21, 1911.

AS WELL as being a born adventurer, Tom Ewer was one of the pioneers of the animal welfare movement in Britain. He served as a member of the important Brambell Royal Commission on the welfare of animals in intensive husbandry systems, and was a founder member of the Farm Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, later the Farm Animal Welfare Council.

Thomas Keightley Ewer was raised in Cornwall and educated at Fowey Grammar School, but left at 16 to take his first job as a clerk in a shipping company. At 17 he left his family and emigrated solo on an assisted passage to Australia, where he soon found work on a sheep station. From there he was helped to enter Hawksbury Agriculture College, and thence to Sydney University, where he read veterinary medicine. From 1938 to 1947 he worked in New Zealand, first in government research and then as a senior lecturer at Lincoln College of the University of New Zealand.

In 1947 he moved to Trinity Hall, Cambridge, as a Wellcome Research Fellow to study ruminant nutrition. On gaining his doctorate in 1950 he was immediately appointed Professor of Animal Husbandry and Dean of the new veterinary school at Queensland University in Brisbane. This was typical of the speed at which he could make things happen, and was his first real opportunity to do what he liked best: put new things into action.

While at Brisbane, he travelled regularly as a consultant for the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, developing new initiatives in Burma, Ethiopia and Venezuela. In 1961 he persuaded his new wife, June, that they should move together with their children (and those from their previous marriages) back to England, allegedly because there were "no sharks and no snakes" but actually because he had lost the youthful romanticism that had called him to the open range, and now wanted to take up the newly established chair of animal husbandry at Bristol University's veterinary school.

He brought to Bristol a vision of veterinary science and veterinary education that was ahead of his time and often in conflict with the received wisdom. From nothing he built a superbly equipped department; and although he was physically formidable and sometimes forbidding, he was devoted to his staff and students.

He poached time from the heavy, vocationally based curriculum to enable all students to undertake research projects. He also established principles of good animal husbandry — which is animal science garnished with tenderness — both as a basis for preventive medicine and as the foundation for a professional approach to animal welfare.

Retirement from Bristol in 1977 brought little perceptible change in his pace of life. His next two years were spent developing veterinary education at King Faisal University in Saudi Arabia. He claimed that this was because he now had nine children to educate, but most had actually finished their education by then, and the principal reason was that he relished the new challenge.

He had always been just as active outside his departments as within them. His concern for human welfare had led him to chair the University Settlement, Bristol, a charity that tries to enrich the environment of a singularly bleak post-war housing development called Barton Hill. It was largely for this charitable work that he was appointed OBE in 1978. He also served his local parish and church councils until the end of his life, devoting equal energy to chairing committees and mowing the churchyard.

He loved music, especially opera, and the visual arts, and could be seen sprinting between concert halls and art galleries with panting daughters in train. His particular passion was for El Greco.

He served the family of man and other animals with great energy throughout a life that he thoroughly enjoyed, and died at his desk.

He is survived by his second wife, June; their three daughters; three sons from his first marriage; and three stepchildren.

MURRAY BURNETT

Murray Burnett, playwright, died on September 23 aged 86. He was born on December 28, 1910.

MURRAY BURNETT never visited Casablanca, and said he had no interest in doing so; but the Moroccan city was the setting for his play *Everybody Comes to Rick's* (written with Joan Alison), which was later adapted into the film *Casablanca*. Starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman, the film garnered three Oscars, won universal acclaim and assumed mythic status. That was all very well, but Burnett long felt that he had been denied his due in theatre and Hollywood history.

"Adapted from a play? *Casablanca*? I don't think so," Ingrid Bergman told an interviewer in 1974. But Burnett always claimed that it was he who had penned the famous lines "We'll always have Paris", "Of all the gin joints in all of the towns all over the world, she had to walk into mine", and "Play it, Sam". According to his wife, the actress Adrienne Bayan, nothing hurt him more than being uncredited.

Murray Burnett was born in New York City, and his father, a clothing manufacturer and opera buff, fostered his interest in drama by exposing his son to the theatre and opera at the Met from an early age.

Graduating from Cornell University with a degree in English literature, Burnett became an English teacher at a New York high school. In the summer of 1938 he was in German-occupied Vienna assisting Jewish relatives to smuggle money out of the country when he saw a billboard in Vienna Square bearing a grotesque caricature of a Jewish man. He was incensed.

Returning to the United States "in the white heat of anger", he asked the dramatist Joan Alison to collaborate on a play entitled *Everybody Comes to Rick's* about a cynical American who runs a nightclub in Casablanca that serves as a through station for the Resistance. Rick's former lover, an American woman of questionable morals named Lois Meredith, arrives in the company of a remarkable resistance leader, and she and Rick resume their affair.

An option was taken on the play for a Broadway production, but it did not appear because of artistic differences between Burnett and the producers. Instead he sold it to Warner Brothers for $20,000, a record at the time.

Many were sceptical. The critic James Agee said it was "one of the world's worst plays", and the screenwriter Robert Buckner said it was "sheer hokum", and that the characterisation of Rick was "two parts Hemingway, one part Scott Fitzgerald, and a dash of café Christ".

Bogart and Bergman in Rick's bar. Bergman knew nothing about Burnett's play

It was reported that five screenwriters were subsequently employed on the film, but little of substance was changed, except the character of Lois, renamed Ilse. Burnett greatly admired the resulting film, though he disowned the line in which the protagonist's problems are said to amount to little more "than a hill of beans". This was a cliché, he said, not worthy of his pen.

After relinquishing the rights to *Everybody Comes to Rick's*, Burnett left the New York education system to devote himself to full-time writing. In 1944 he wrote the Broadway play *Hickory Street*, about his experiences as a teacher, and *You Only Love Twice*, which was produced off Broadway in the 1950s. He went on to write, produce and direct more than a thousand television and radio programmes, including the radio drama *Café Istanbul*, starring Marlene Dietrich.

But despite all his later work, *Everybody Comes to Rick's* was Burnett's abiding passion. Even when it had long passed from his hands to Hollywood, it was never far from his mind. The play was never produced on Broadway, but in 1991, under the title *Rick's Bar, Casablanca*, it ran for six weeks at the Whitehall Theatre in London.

In 1983, Burnett and Alison sued Warner Brothers when a short-lived television series was developed from the film. They asserted that they owned rights to the characters, but lost the case when the New York Court of Appeals ruled that they had assigned away ownership of their work regardless of medium.

Late in life, Burnett tried to write a sequel to *Casablanca*, but he never completed it, fearing a lawsuit from Warner Brothers. He was also working on an autobiography and a novel at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife and a daughter.

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ON THIS DAY

October 17, 1922

All manner of aircraft turned up to compete for the Daily Mail prize: some had been rather hastily constructed, and the weather being boisterous, not all survived intact

BRITISH GLIDING CONTEST.

37 MINUTES IN THE AIR.

(From Our Aeronautical Correspondent)

Lewes, Oct. 16.

This morning most of us who went out on to the South Downs to see the airmen compete for the prize of £1,000 for a glide of thirty minutes felt fairly confident that it would not be won. Mr. Fokker shattered our illusions. He has not necessarily won the prize, but he has made it certain that it will be won. Mr. Fokker made a glide of 37 min. 6 sec. The prize is given by the *Daily Mail* and to win it the successful competitor must not only remain in the air at least thirty minutes but is required also to land on a spot within 800 yards of the point from which he started. This Mr. Fokker did. The weather was gloriously fine, with the sky as clear as one had seen it for a twelvemonth. Mr. Raynham, flying a monoplane glider and started from a catapult, managed a glide of 1 min. 58 sec. Capt. H.S. Broad, 2 min. 18 sec. and Mr E.D.C Herne 1 min. 38 sec. All these glides, if short, were yet encouraging for each was longer than the one before it. So far the competitors had all started from much the same spot on the northeast side of the top of Itford Hill. Mr. Fokker for his first and second, Mr. Raynham for his second flight, and Mr. Gordon England decided to try the possibilities of a start from Firle Beacon. At two o'clock one panted up the last few yards of Firle Beacon and half an hour later Mr. Fokker in his biplane, with a passenger, shot off into the air. He soared and hovered and turned making gliding appear the easiest feat imaginable. It was noticeable that he followed fairly closely the configuration of the land, and that he frequently got a strong upward thrust from a powerful gust. After travelling for what seemed to be a mile or more he turned completely round, and came travelling back with the wind full behind him. It was an impressive piece of airmanship and it lasted 7 min. 3½ sec. Then Mr. Raynham went up again. He took much of the line that Mr Fokker had taken and at the end of two minutes there seemed to be no reason why he should ever return to earth. Head into the wind, his machine hung poised 400 yards from his starting point, and perhaps 20ft higher than it. Then he went ahead again, rising and falling. At last he turned, headed up the valley with the wind behind him and landed after 11 min. 23 sec. He must have been seven hundred yards behind the spot from which he started. Mr. Raynham thus won the prize of £30, given by Lieutenant-Colonel Alec Ogilvie and the prize of £25 given by Mr. Fairey both of which were open to British competitors only. This was thought to be the last of the day's gliding but Mr. Fokker came again. While the sun was getting perilously near the horizon his machine was hauled to the top of the Beacon. He manoeuvred with consummate skill and carried out a glide which lasted 37 min. 6 sec. Few people had remained to see it, the majority having supposed that the day's sport was finished before he took off. His was the only biplane we have seen to-day. He landed within 800 yards of the Beacon and thereby fulfilled the conditions of the competition.

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES TODAY

FRIDAY OCTOBER 17 1997

NEWS

Civil servant quits over 'spinning'

■ Tensions over apparent attempts to turn civil servants into government spin doctors grew as a senior information officer resigned and a minister was reportedly rebuked after a row about a "political" press release.

Jonathan Haslam became the eighth senior information officer to leave after a bitter wrangle with the Education Minister Stephen Byers over a sentence critical of the Tories in a statement about parents' choice of schools .... **Page 1**

Royal Family will change its image

■ The Queen has accepted that the Royal Family must change its image after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, senior Palace officials have told *The Times*. There will be no sudden switch of style but a source close to the Queen spoke of the need to demonstrate "softer, gentler touches" .... **Pages 1, 17**

Playground ban

New laws banning paedophiles from schools, playgrounds and other risk areas are expected to be *introduced by Jack Straw, the* Home Secretary, within the next few weeks .... **Page 1**

Gun Bill defeats

The Government suffered a double defeat in the House of Lords last night over its controversial plans to introduce a total ban on handguns .... **Page 1**

Blunkett row

An eminent scientist was drawn into a row over an "astonishing" attack by David Blunkett on university academics teaching his student son Alastair .... **Page 2**

Road rage car

Police hunting the driver who is said to have rammed the back of a young couple's vehicle, forcing them off the road to their deaths, released details of the car they are seeking .... **Page 3**

Judge criticised

A mother who lost custody of her children because they had seen her and her fiancé naked won a rehearing yesterday after two Court of Appeal judges criticised the judge for allowing himself to be "shocked" .... **Page 4**

Passive smoking risk

Living with a smoker increases the risk of heart disease by a quarter, according to a new analysis .... **Page 6**

Record book deal

An unknown British writer has been awarded what is claimed to be a record £420,000 advance for a first or second novel .... **Page 8**

Ireland's choice

Two weeks from today, a little-known Belfast law professor is expected to become Ireland's first northern President after one of the republic's more curious elections .... **Page 10**

Driftnet ban

The RSPCA called for a ban on the use of driftnets by British fishermen, saying that they were devastating marine life ... **Page 12**

Jews arrested

*Ten Jewish residents of Jerusa*lem have been arrested for allegedly supplying explosives to *Palestinians for use in terrorist* attacks against targets in Israel .... **Page 13**

Found in Paradise

One of France's most wanted men, *a former official of Presi*dent Chirac's Gaullists implicated in a party-funding scandal, has been traced to Paradise Island in the Bahamas .... **Page 14**

Clinton inquiry

Janet Reno, the US Attorney-General, has tried to appease Republican critics by promising not to close any part of her inquiry into fundraising by President Clinton or Vice-President Al Gore without prior FBI approval .... **Page 15**

Cyclist breaks the radar barrier

■ A woman who wanted to lose weight was stopped by police on her bicycle after speeding through a radar trap at 43mph. Ros Jones, 43, was advised to take up gentle cycling by her slimming instructor to help to reduce her weight. Mrs Jones, of Golden Grove, Carmarthenshire, decided to use her daughter's bicycle for a daily seven-mile trip .... **Page 1**

Sergeant Darrell Karnes of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police escorts the Grenadier Guards Band at Buckingham Palace yesterday

BUSINESS

WH Smith: The retailer wants to demerge the *Waterstone's* book shop chain and sell its shareholding in Virgin Our Price record stores .... **Page 25**

Telecoms: AT&T, the largest US telephone group, is lobbying regulators to impose strict conditions if they allow GTE's £17.5 billion bid for MCI to go ahead .... **Page 25**

EMU: Sterling's recent volatility makes it unrealistic for Britain to join the single European currency *in 1999, Wim Duisenberg, Presi*dent of the European Monetary Institute, said .... **Page 25**

Markets: The FTSE 100 rose 24.2 to 5287.9. *Sterling fell from* 100.3 to 99.8 after a fall from $1.6232 to $1.6208 and from DM2.8421 to DM2.8267 .... **Page 28**

SPORT

Football: Manchester United confirmed an interest in signing the Chile striker, Marcello Salas but denied reports that they had offered £13 million .... **Page 48**

Golf: Mark O'Meara, of the US, kept the defending champions' hopes alive in the Alfred Dunhill Cup at St Andrews with victory over Eduardo Romero .... **Page 48**

Motor racing: In order to clinch the world title, Jacques Villeneuve must finish ahead of Michael Schumacher in the final Formula One race of the season .... **Page 48**

Rugby union: Philippe Saint-André, Thierry Lacroix and Laurent *Cabannes, all of whom ply their* trade with English clubs, have been selected to play for France *against Italy* .... **Page 43**

Classic mistake: "What compels a genius to attempt something for which neither temperament nor training has equipped him?" Richard Morrison writes about Sir Paul McCartney .... **Page 35**

Mommie dearest: With its rich mixture of the realistic and modern with the fantastic and mythical, *Shintoku-Maru* brings theatre back to the Barbican .... **Page 35**

Miss hit: William Alwyn's opera version of Strindberg's *Miss Julie* receives its stage premiere at Norwich, which knows a good thing when it sees one .... **Page 36**

Nailed down: After the frenzy of the *past few years* Jimmy Nail is taking it easy — just a tour, a new album and a couple of screenplays: *the top pop releases* .... **Page 37**

French tears: Paris Fashion Week is scarcely French any more, says Grace Bradberry, Style Editor — the most famous *ateliers* have been overrun by Britons .... **Page 18**

Pretty kitty: As *Germaine* Greer attacks the women's magazine culture of sexual availability, *Vogue* is profiling the kitten woman *in all* her fluffy glory. Kimberly Fortier and Erica Wagner debate the issue .... **Page 19**

Dragon Awards: Recognition to businesses that help to improve inner-city life .... **Page 33**

Star appeal: As *star-studded* commercials appear on cinema screens, a leading educationist *looks at the profession's appeal and* at what kind of teachers emerge from the system .... **Page 38**

Carpe diem: Tom Murphy ex*plains why he interrupted his* career as a journalist to seize the moment and go back to school at the age of 41 — to learn how to become a song-and-dance man .... **Page 39**

Seen from France, the recent Italian crisis irresistibly revokes a new episode in a political theatre as confusing as it is entertaining

— *Le Monde*

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ WEEKEND
Goodness gracious me: the gaffes and groans which made up the Queen's visit to Pakistan and India

■ METRO
Arundathi Roy, winner of the Booker Prize.

RADIO & TV

Preview: *George Burns* and Walter Matthau show their star quality in *Parkinson: The Interviews* (BBC1, 10.20pm) **Review:** Matthew Bond *bids a sad farewell to the aliens in* the science-fiction series *The Uninvited* (ITV) .... **Pages 46, 47**

OPINION

The wrong spin

Putting the Government's policies in the best light is one thing: *putting the previous Government's* policies in the worst light is another .... **Page 21**

The colour of money

The dependence of both main parties *on sectional interests should be* discouraged. But the best solution is enhanced participation, not unenforceable *regulation* .... **Page 21**

Mothers in law

A *proper horror of indebtedness* is a decent Scots prejudice but when it leads a man to use the blunt instru*ment of a writ to bludgeon money* from his mother it becomes ugly selfishness .... **Page 21**

MATTHEW PARRIS

*Looking in, during Labour's Brigh*ton conference, on the Stonewall lobbying group's gay equality dance, you *might have* suspected that heterosexual partygoers outnumbered gay ones. You would have been right .... **Page 20**

DENIS MacSHANE

*Should taxpayers pay for democra*cy? The question Sir Patrick Neil has to answer is not a new one. *Pound by pound, decade by de*cade, the political process has got its hands on public money . **Page 20**

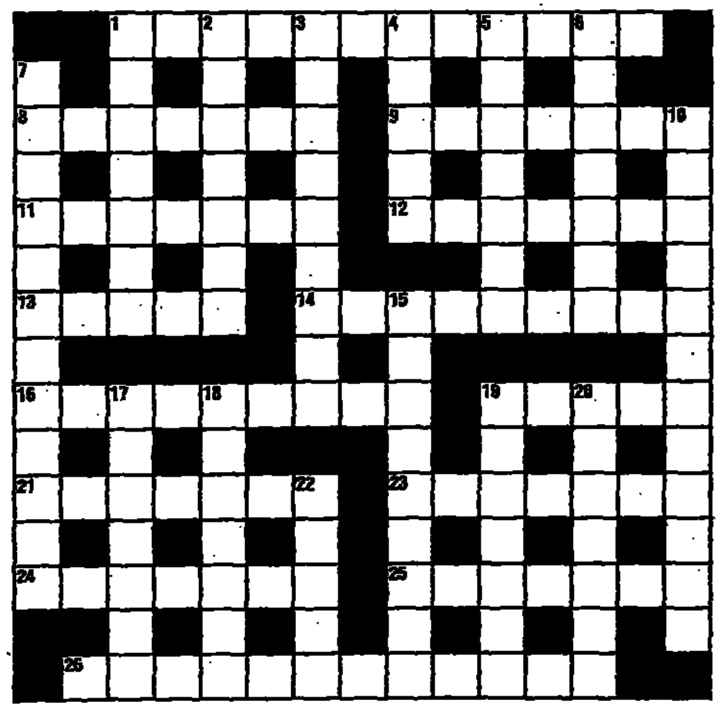
PHILIP HOWARD

According to Chris Thomas, our man in Delhi, the Queen is about to launch a more people-friendly monarchy when she returns from *her state visits. A senior* Palace source described the project to him as "monarchy with a human face" .... **Page 20**

Donald Horobin, TV editor; **Tom Ewer**, professor of animal husbandry; **Murray Burnett**, playwright .... **Page 23**

Patents in biotechnology; memorial garden for Diana; Yehudi Menuhin on the price of violins; forestry and conservation .... **Page 21**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,613



ACROSS

1 The language of *Hamlet* — *old* lines providing quite a mouthful (6,6).
8 *Start to* fall, catching right foot (7).
9 Go back to capture pawn that's unable to escape (7).
11 Suitable arboreal habitat for stick insect? (3,4).
12 *Drink teas blended as one prefers* (2,5).
13 Gold, say, was in contact with *aluminium* (5).
14 Teachers dropping out each quarter before head makes short speech (9).
16 Small movement of sea, despite an explosion (4,5).
19 Boy behind mother who wears apron? (5).
21 *Finally buying* land to develop (7).
23 Unwanted card one's left on shelf (3,4).
24 He won't let people go round his estate, perhaps (4,3).
25 Meekly *accept this is no guar*antee summer's here (7).
26 Very bright, of American parentage (12).

DOWN

1 Sole cleaner is a feeble person (7).
2 One likely to succeed, though *illegitimate* (7).
3 Refused it, being poorly and too full (9).
4 *Make a fuss over* appeal that's legally insignificant (5).
5 Go to live outside a city in America (7).
6 State letters that have point will get swift reply (7).
7 He's in charge of flats and other properties (5,7).
10 Criticising for being too casually got up (8,4).
15 Presses on, getting curious answers (9).
17 Upper classes meeting dishonour and decline (7).
18 Sign Handel originally entered over a passage for wind (7).
19 Agencies overlooking note to broker (7).
20 A *colour for Hester Prynne* (7).
22 Went carefully, promised no place at the outset (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,612

O	N	T	H	E	L	E	V	E	L		H	A	C	K
	I		O		I		A		I		I		L	
A	G	N	O	S	T	I	C		E	M	B	L	E	M
	H		H		T		C		I		E		A	
S	T	R	A	F	E		I	G	N	O	R	A	N	T
	W				R		N				N			
H	E	L	P		B	R	E	A	K	W	A	T	E	R
	A		A		U				E		T		P	
P	R	O	P	A	G	A	T	O	R		E	C	H	O
			E				A		B				E	
C	L	E	R	I	C	A	L		S	M	A	R	M	Y
	L		B		O		L		T		R		E	
N	A	P	A	L	M		B	L	O	O	M	E	R	S
	M		C		I		O		N		E		A	
J	A	C	K		C	L	Y	D	E	S	D	A	L	E

Times Two Crossword, page 48

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.28 am
Sun sets: 6.03 pm
Moon sets 8.50 am
Moon rises 7.13 pm

Last quarter October 23
London 6.03 pm to 7.30 am
Bristol 6.13 pm to 7.39 am
Edinburgh 6.07 pm to 7.50 am
Manchester 6.08 pm to 7.41 am
Penzance 6.27 pm to 7.49 am

FORECAST

☐ **General:** north and west Scotland *rain* and hill fog. E Scotland possible rain or drizzle in morning. N Ireland cloudy *with rain or drizzle with east brightening* later. England and Wales dry and mild. *Rain tonight across N Ireland and* western Scotland.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, Channel Isles, NE England:** cloudy start, some sunny spells by afternoon. Max 20C (68F).

☐ **W Midlands, SW England, S Wales, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England:** warm, mainly cloudy morning, sunny later. Max 18C (64F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen:** *cloudy then brighter with* afternoon sun. Max 18C (64F).

☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll:** dull, fog over hills, mostly dry. Moderate S wind. Max 17C (63F).

☐ **Moray Firth, NE Scotland, NW Scotland:** *morning drizzle turning to* heavier rain by afternoon. Moderate S to SE wind. *Max* 16C (61F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** morning drizzle turning heavier during afternoon. Moderate SW wind. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **N Ireland:** mainly cloudy with some rain in west. East will brighten up in afternoon. Max 18C (64F).

☐ **Republic of Ireland:** heavy *rain* at first, lighter and confined to west later. Misty for a while. Wind light to fresh. Max 17C (63F).

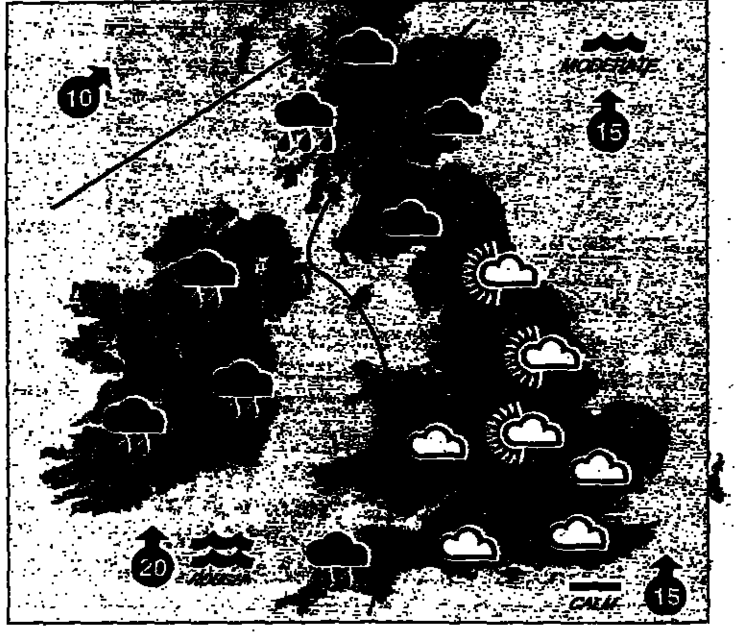
☐ **Outlook:** *most parts dry and warm* Light rain possible in N Scotland.

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Anglesey	0.1	0.08	15	59	d
Aspatria	0.2	0.23	17	63	r
Aviemore	1.4	0.07	14	57	sh
Belfast	0.3	0.29	18	64	r
Birmingham	-	0.01	16	61	r
Bognor R	0.1	0.03	16	61	d
Bristol	-	0.01	18	64	c
Buxton	-	0.24	13	55	sh
Cardiff	0.1	0.01	17	63	d
Clacton	-	0.14	13	55	du
Cleethorpes	-	0.16	12	54	d
Colwyn Bay	1.1	0.07	19	66	c
Cromer	-	0.08	11	52	r
Eastbourne	0.1	0.01	17	63	d
Edinburgh	-	0.27	17	63	r
Eskdalemuir	-	0.42	14	57	r
Exmouth	0.3	0.01	17	63	c
Falmouth	-	0.02	17	63	c
Fishguard	0.1	0.02	16	61	d
Folkestone	0.3	0.01	14	57	c
Glasgow	-	0.58	15	59	r
Guernsey	-	0.04	19	66	sh
Hastings	-	0.01	16	61	c
Hayling I.	X	0.06	16	61	d
Herne Bay	0.1	-	14	57	du
Hove	0.6	-	17	63	d
Hunstanton	X	0.07	11	52	d
Isle-of-wight	-	0.11	16	61	r
Jersey	-	0.05	17	63	d
Kinloss	0.6	0.06	17	63	b
Leeds	-	0.30	14	57	r
Leuchars	-	0.18	14	57	r
Littlehmptn	0.4	0.01	17	63	d
London	-	0.01	16	61	c
Lowestoft	-	0.04	13	55	d
Manchester	0.1	0.20	15	59	r
Margate	-	-	14	57	du
Minehead	2.2	0.03	18	64	b
Morecambe	-	0.33	16	61	r
Newcastle	-	0.10	13	55	r
Norwich	-	0.03	12	54	d
Penzance	X	0.09	18	64	c
Poole	0.1	0.07	17	63	r
Ross-o-wye	-	0.05	17	63	c
Salcombe	-	0.06	17	63	c
Sauntn Snd	-	0.08	17	63	du
Scarboro'	-	0.13	13	55	d
Shrewsbury	0.8	0.07	17	63	d
Skegness	-	0.13	11	52	r
Southend	0.4	0.01	14	57	du
Southsea	0.2	0.07	17	63	r
Stornoway	-	0.12	14	57	r
Swanage	-	0.04	17	63	d
Teignmouth	0.4	0.02	17	63	c
Tenby	0.2	0.12	16	61	d
Tiree	-	0.56	15	59	r
Torquay	0.3	0.07	17	63	c
Tynemouth	-	0.11	13	55	c
West-s-mare	-	-	18	64	c
Weymouth	0.1	0.01	18	64	sh

	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	18	64	f	Corfu	18	64	f	Majorca	21	70	f	Rome	18	64	s
Akrotiri	31	88	s	C'phagn	7	45	f	Malaga	23	73	f	S Frisco	18	64	s
Alex'dria	29	84	s	Dublin	13	55	f	Malta	21	70	s	S Paulo	X		
Algiers	22	72	f	Dubrovnik	14	57	x	Melb'rne	15	59	c	Salzburg	5	41	r
Amst'dm	9	48	c	Faro	23	73	s	Mexico C	X			Santiago	19	66	f
Athens	26	79	s	Florence	17	63	s	Miami	28	82	r	Seoul	19	66	s
B Aires	17	63	c	Frankfurt	7	45	c	Milan	18	64	s	Sing'por	33	91	s
Bahrain	35	95	s	Funchal	23	73	f	Montreal	13	55	s	St'kholm	3	37	r
Bangkok	34	93	t	Geneva	9	48	d	Moscow	5	41	c	Strasb'rg	8	46	r
Barbados	31	88	f	Gibraltar	22	72	f	Munich	6	43	r	Sydney	19	66	s
Barcelona	18	64	f	Helsinki	5	41	c	N Delhi	27	81	s	Tangier	25	77	s
Beirut	29	84	s	Hong K	29	84	f	N York	15	59	f	Tel Aviv	33	91	s
Belgrade	8	46	f	Innsbrck	8	46	c	Nairobi	20	68	c	Tenerife	25	77	f
Berlin	10	50	f	Istanbul	20	68	c	Naples	18	64	s	Tokyo	23	73	s
Bermuda	24	75	s	Jeddah	37	99	s	Nice	20	68	s	Toronto	12	54	c
Biarritz	16	61	f	Jo'burg	20	68	c	Oslo	7	45	s	Tunis	20	68	f
Bord'x	14	57	d	L Angels	32	90	s	Paris	12	54	r	Valencia	23	73	s
Brussels	8	46	d	L Palmas	26	79	s	Peking	20	68	s	Vanc'ver	13	55	c
Budapst	12	54	s	Le Toquet	15	59	f	Perth	22	72	s	Venice	15	59	s
Cairo	34	93	s	Lisbon	20	68	s	Prague	7	45	s	Vienna	10	50	f
Cape Tn	30	86	s	Locarno	12	54	c	Reykjavik	9	48	r	Warsaw	7	45	c
Ch'church	13	55	x	Luxembg	5	41	r	Rhodes	28	82	f	Wash'ton	13	55	c
Chicago	12	54	s	Luxor	37	99	f	Rio de J	34	93	s	Wel'ngton	12	54	x
Cologne	9	48	c	Madrid	17	63	s	Riyadh	35	95	s	Zurich	6	43	r

Temperatures at midday local time Wednesday. X = not available



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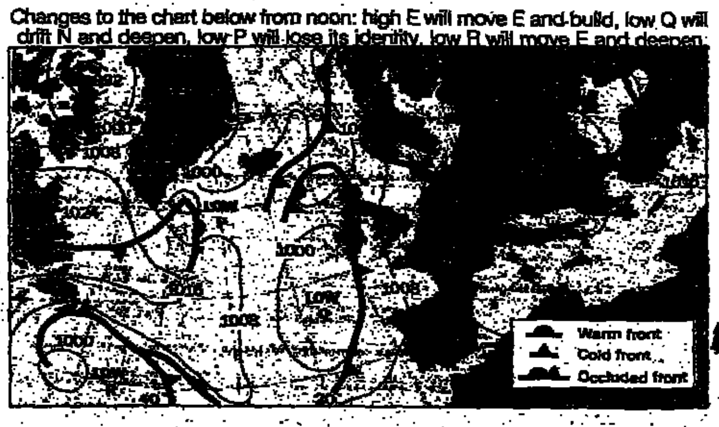

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	03.09	7.6	15.24	7.6	Leith	03.39	6.2	16.08	6.0
Aberdeen	02.21	4.8	14.54	4.8	Liverpool	00.16	10.3	12.41	10.1
Avonmouth	08.40	14.2	21.03	14.5	Lowestoft	10.35	2.8	23.14	2.6
Belfast	00.00	3.8	12.27	3.7	Margate	01.15	5.0	13.18	5.1
Cardiff	08.26	13.1	20.49	13.3	Milford Haven	07.36	7.6	19.58	7.7
Devonport	07.09	5.8	19.30	5.9	Newquay	06.27	7.5	18.49	7.6
Dover	00.02	7.0	12.22	7.2	Oban	07.05	4.2	19.30	4.5
Dublin (N Wall)	00.33	4.6	13.05	4.4	Penzance	05.57	5.9	18.18	6.0
Falmouth	06.49	5.6	19.01	5.7	Portland	08.16	2.4	20.38	2.5
Greenock	01.47	3.6	14.08	3.7	Portsmouth	00.17	5.0	12.44	5.1
Harwich	01.04	4.4	13.18	4.4	Shoreham	00.11	6.6	12.37	6.7
Holyhead	11.42	6.0	-	-	Southampton	-	-	12.12	5.0
Hull (Albert D)	07.27	8.4	19.59	8.2	Swansea	07.48	10.5	20.06	10.6
Ilfracombe	07.22	10.0	19.45	10.1	Tees	04.47	6.0	17.18	5.8
King's Lynn	07.34	7.7	20.10	7.3	Walton-on-N	00.54	4.6	13.09	4.6

All times BST. Heights in metres.

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Colwyn Bay 19C (66F); lowest day max: Skegness 11C (52F); highest rainfall: West Freugh 0.83in; highest sunshine: Minehead 2.2hr.

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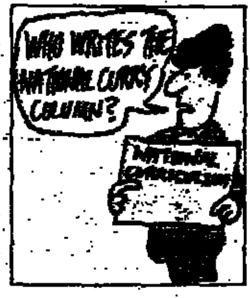
THE TIMES 2

INSIDE SECTION 2 TODAY

BUSINESS
Sir Colin Hope's success story falls to the US
PAGE 29


WHO WRITES THE NATIONAL CURRIC COLUMN?
NATIONAL CURRICULUM

EDUCATION
Everybody has a question for the local teacher
PAGES 38, 39

SPORT
Pazienza emerges from shadows to meet Graham
PAGES 42-48

TELEVISION AND RADIO
PAGES 46, 47

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft FRIDAY OCTOBER 17 1997

Tim Waterstone 'appalled' at sell-off after second offer is rejected

WH Smith in demerger U-turn

By Sarah Cunningham, Retail Correspondent

WH SMITH performed a strategic U-turn yesterday after rejecting a second set of takeover proposals from Tim Waterstone, the founder of the group's bookstore chain.

Jeremy Hardie, chairman of WH Smith, who six weeks ago ruled out a break-up of the retail group, revealed plans to demerge the Waterstone's business and to sell its Virgin/Our Price music business and The Wall, its US music business.

Commentary 27
City Diary 29

Mr Waterstone, who started at WH Smith, said he was *appalled that the group* was ridding itself of the business he founded in 1981 and sold to WH Smith eight years later.

WH Smith will concentrate *on its 413-store high street* chain, news distribution business and on international and travel retail operations.

Richard Handover, who be*came chief executive two* weeks ago, denied that Mr Waterstone's approaches had forced a reverse in strategy, although he said they had *spurred on the process of* change. "The process has been going on for a considerable period of time, not just the last two weeks," he said.

The company said that the new version of Mr Waterstone's original plan, which it *threw out* on October 1, "does not make an significant difference to the original proposals". They were therefore "unanimously rejected on the *basis that they are not in the* best interest of shareholders, do not create any significant value and are not financially sound".

WH Smith's plan received a lukewarm response from the market. The shares closed up just 3½p at 405½p, supported by hopes that a buyer would *emerge for Waterstone's be*fore it is demerged. Tony Shiret, retail analyst at BZW, said that Waterstone's and Virgin/Our Price would both *compete head-on with the* main WH Smith chain. How*ever, better operational man*agement of the WH Smith chain should lead to some improvements in the currently poor margins, he said.

He said a *buyer, perhaps* one of the leading US book chains currently eyeing the British market, is likely to appear for Waterstone's. Oth*er analysts* were *more* sceptical, saying that US businesses were *loath to pay the high* prices that successful British retail businesses command.

Alan Giles, who now runs Waterstone's, is set to be chief *executive of the chain after* he demerges the 106-store business next spring. It is expected to be valued at between £300 million and £350 million.

Mr Hardie said that, apart from losing Mr Giles, no other *changes are expected* at WH Smith's board. He said that he had come under no pressure to quit and has no intention of leaving the group.

Mr Waterstone and his partner, Ian Gibson, the chairman of Unigate, said that they would not be making a hostile bid although they remain keen to talk to the board about their proposal. Mr Waterstone said: "*Ian and I are genuinely saddened by today's* developments."

He criticised WH Smith's new strategy: "It appalls me *that WH Smith's solution is to* package Waterstone's in a fashion in which it can, and almost certainly will, be sold to the highest bidder in a fashion that is tax efficient to the shareholders. This may create short-term value, but to *take the best performing retail* brand out of the portfolio makes no sense whatsoever."

Virgin, which recently indicated it would pay up to £135 *million to buy WH Smith's* share of the Virgin/Our Price business, of which it owns 25 per cent, is still seen as the most likely buyer. However, *the complexities of the joint* venture agreement could make a quick sale unlikely. Selling The Wall is expected to also be a lengthy business *because of the poor state of the* US music market.

WH Smith retail, run by Beverley Hodson, will concentrate on books, stationery and magazines.

Book sale: Jeremy Hardie, pictured, announced that Waterstone's shops are to be sold off

Clarke to join BAT as £23bn link is agreed

By Marianne Curphey
Insurance Correspondent

KENNETH CLARKE, the cigar-loving former Chancellor, is to become a non-executive deputy chairman of British American Tobacco, his third City directorship *since* he lost *the Conservative Party leader*ship battle.

The news came as BAT Industries confirmed the £23 billion merger of its financial *services arm* with Zurich Group, the Swiss insurer.

Earl Cairns, who is chairman of BAT Industries and will head the UK-listed end of the new Zurich Financial Services (ZF Group), cautioned that there would be "some initial reduction", perhaps up to 20 per cent, in the initial *dividend payout.*

ZF Group will pay BAT £500 million, take on £800 million of debt and take over Eagle Star, Allied Dunbar, Farmers of the US and Threadneedle. Rolf Hüppi, chairman and chief executive of Zurich Group, will head the ZF Group. He intends to keep the UK brands intact.

Martin Broughton, currently deputy chairman of BAT, will be chairman of British American Tobacco. The tobacco businesses will restructure their £4 billion debt, while the operations of Zurich and British *American Financial Services* (BAFS) will be transferred to a new Zurich-based company.

Mr Hüppi declined to discuss how many of the 66,000 *staff in the merged company* would lose their jobs.

ZF Group will be one of the world's biggest insurers with $342 billion (£211 billion) *under management.* Zurich shareholders will own 55 per cent of the new company and BAT shareholders 45 per cent.

Commentary, page 27
City Diary, page 29

Business Today

STOCK MARKET INDICES		
FTSE 100	5287.9	(+24.2)
Yield	3.06%	
FTSE All share	2487.28	(+11.90)
Nikkei	17707.49	(+376.12)
New York:		
Dow Jones	8048.65	(-9.33)*
S&P Composite	967.32	(+1.60)*
US RATE		
Federal Funds	5½%*	(5½%)
Long Bond	100 13/32*	(99 21/32)
Yield	6.35%*	(6.40%)
LONDON MONEY		
3-mth Interbank	7¼%	(7¼%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	119 1/32	(119 9/16)
STERLING		
New York:		
$	1.6187*	(1.6232)
London:		
$	1.6204	(1.6238)
DM	2.8255	(2.8424)
FFr	9.4808	(9.5292)
SFr	2.3572	(2.3704)
Yen	194.40	(197.06)
£ Index	99.8	(100.3)
DOLLAR		
London:		
DM	1.7463*	(1.7471)
FFr	5.8536*	(5.8575)
SFr	1.4555*	(1.4580)
Yen	120.04*	(121.09)
$ Index	104.2	(105.1)
Tokyo close Yen 120.40		
NORTH SEA OIL		
Brent 15-day (Dec)	$19.85	($19.55)
GOLD		
London close	$326.45	($326.75)

* denotes midday trading price

DFS strain

The rapid advance of DFS *showed signs of strain as the* furniture chain coupled disappointing year-end results with a warning that recent trading had *suffered a short* downturn. Page 27

On the attack

BTR, which embarked on a £3 billion disposal programme last month, *went back on the attack* yesterday with the £361 million purchase of America's Exide Electronics. It will be merged with BTR Control Systems. Page 30

Volatile pound to keep euro at distance

By Janet Bush
and Alasdair Murray

STERLING'S recent volatility makes it unrealistic for Britain to join the single European currency in 1999, Wim Duisenberg, President of the European Monetary Institute, said yesterday.

The institute, which is due to become the European Central Bank at the start of economic and monetary union, will be an important voice in next year's deliberations about which countries will join the euro in the first wave.

In a German newspaper yesterday, Mr Duisenberg made it clear that he takes seriously the provision of the Maastricht treaty that calls for a stable exchange rate for at least two years before joining the single currency. "I would consider it important for the British to be able to demonstrate exchange-rate stability over several years and for at least two years. So far, however, we have seen nothing but sizeable fluctuations," he said.

His remarks coincide with comments by Andrew Sentance, director of the Centre for Economic Forecasting at the London Business School, arguing that recent volatility of the pound virtually rules out UK EMU entry in 1999.

The British Chambers of Commerce yesterday also urged the Government to make a clear statement of intent on joining EMU.

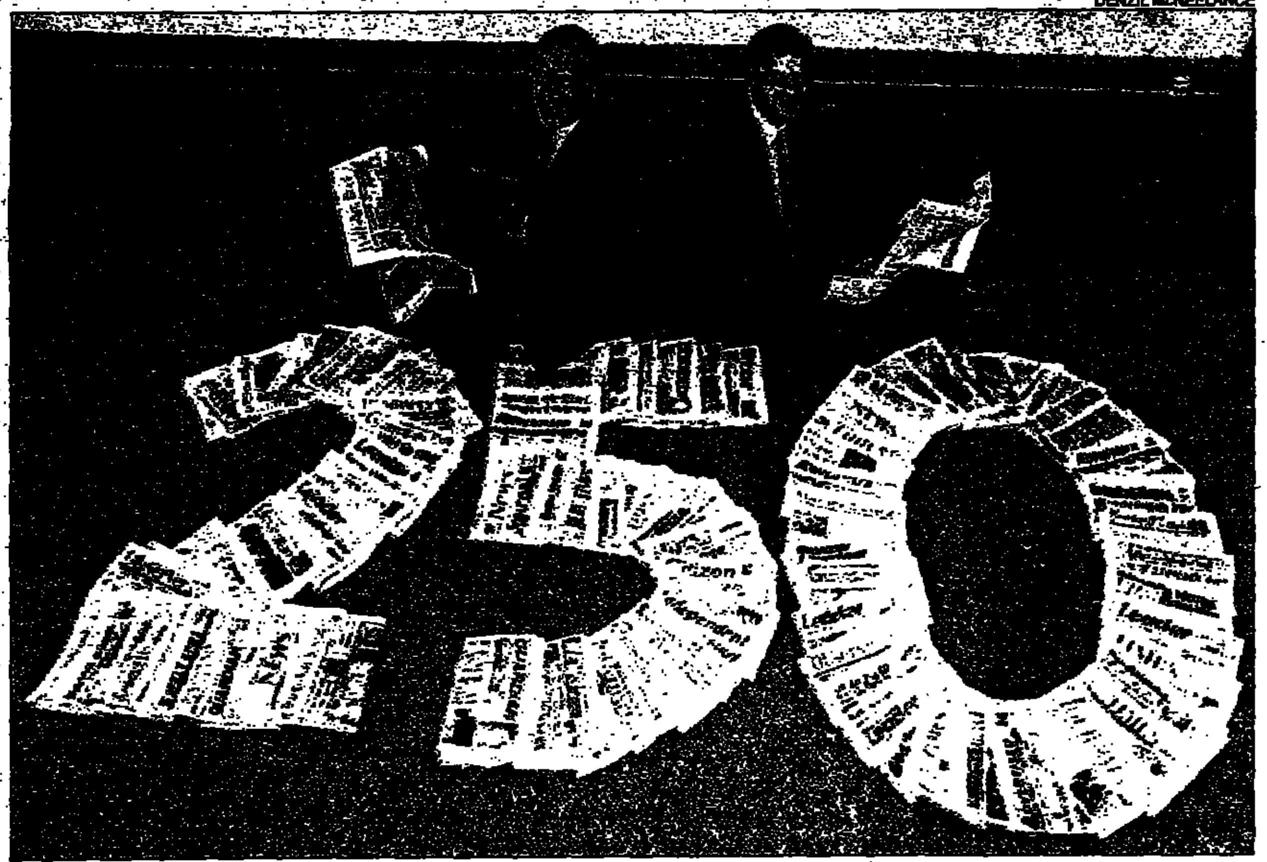
The pound closed at 99.8 on its effective index, compared with 100.3 on Wednesday, and its peak in July of 106.7.

☐ Economists remain confident that the Government is on course to meet its full-year targets even though the public sector borrowing requirement was about £1 billion higher than expected, at £3.1 billion, against £3.4 billion last September.

But the PSBR for the first six months of this year was £8.6 billion, compared with £15.7 billion at the same stage last year. Excluding privatisation receipts, the half-yearly PSBR is at its lowest level since 1990.

Commentary, page 27

DENZIL McNEELANCE



Paper tigers: Jim Brown, left, Newsquest chairman, celebrating yesterday's floation with John Pfeil, finance director

Newsquest value set at £500m

By Our Media Editor

SHARES of Newsquest, the local newspaper group, ended their first day of stock market trading at 252½p yesterday, putting a value of £500 million on the company.

The share offering, which was oversubscribed, was priced at 250p for its stock market debut — the lower end of the expected range — and raised a total of £100 million.

Jim Brown, executive chairman of Newsquest, said that he was pleased at the successful float in what he said were "very difficult market conditions".

More than 80 per cent of Newsquest staff subscribed for shares.

The market valued Newsquest shares at an 8 per cent discount to Trinity International, a rival newspaper group, and at a near-12 per cent discount to Johnson Press. Commenting on the gentle start to trading yesterday, Mr Brown said: "I suspect that once the market sees the value in the business the shares will move up." He also praised staff for participating in the flotation.

The company has around £190 million in debt from the original management buyout *from Reed Elsevier and the* acquisition of the Westminster Press regional newspaper group from Pearson. Part of the £100 million raised will go to reducing debt and part to fund future development.

Following the flotation, RRN Associated, a partnership *organised by Kohlberg* Kravis Roberts, holds 40.4 per cent of the company, and Cinven 14.3 per cent. The management owns 3.7 per *cent of* the company.

Tempus, page 28

GTE faces curbs on $28bn alliance

From Oliver August
in New York

*AT&T, the largest US tele*phone group, is lobbying the US regulators to impose strict conditions if they allow GTE's $28 billion (£17.5 billion) bid *for MCI to go ahead.*

The bid, if successful, will resurrect BT's global strategy as it is likely to play a major role in the new GTE-MCI alliance. According to insiders, GTE has been in contact with BT since the WorldCom bid two weeks ago.

BT is believed to have cooperated with GTE to launch what could turn out to be a white knight rescue. A US link-up is a key part of BT's strategy to transform itself into a global heavyweight in telecommunications.

A three-way deal would give *BT a US partner with a local* and long-distance capacity to rival AT&T. Andy Moffat, analyst at Société Générale, the broker, said: "It's a much *stronger outcome* than the MCI merger. They are now getting a partner who is a major US player."

AT&T said: "We fully expect the Government to require GTE to get serious about opening its local markets to *real competition and to stop* erecting economic roadblocks to the speedy implementation of the 1996 Telecommunications Act". The deregulatory Act sparked the merger frenzy.

Tempus, page 28

Big investors unhappy over £1.5bn T&N bid

By Carl Mortished

FEDERAL-MOGUL'S £1.5 billion bid for T&N, the motor parts manufacturer, received a less than rapturous reception from leading shareholders. Yesterday's recommended bid, struck at 260p per share, *is an 11 per cent increase on* Federal-Mogul's indicative offer, revealed last month. The price was then roundly rejected by PDFM, M&G and Schroders, who together own almost half of the company.

One leading shareholder said: "We *don't think* this fully reflects the value of the company. The question is: do we take what's on offer now or do we wait for T&N to get there on its own?"

T&N will declare a final dividend of 3p, *providing* accepting shareholders with 263p per share. Sir Colin Hope, chairman, who will become international adviser to Federal-Mogul, said it was a good deal for Federal-Mogul and said he had discussed the bid with "all of the leading chief executives in the industry". He said: "Bearing in mind the extent to which the stock market has undervalued T&N, the cash offer is at a level which the board of T&N can recommend to shareholders."

Federal-Mogul's £1.5 billion bid is being financed with a bridging loan *from Chase Manhattan which* is expected to be refinanced in with equity.

Dick Snell, Federal-Mogul's chairman expects to achieve $100 million (£62 million) of annual savings from *the takeover in the second year.* The merged company will have a 90 per cent share in the US bearings market.

Tempus, page 28
Success story, page 29

Share rights lift chief's pay to £6.8m at BSkyB

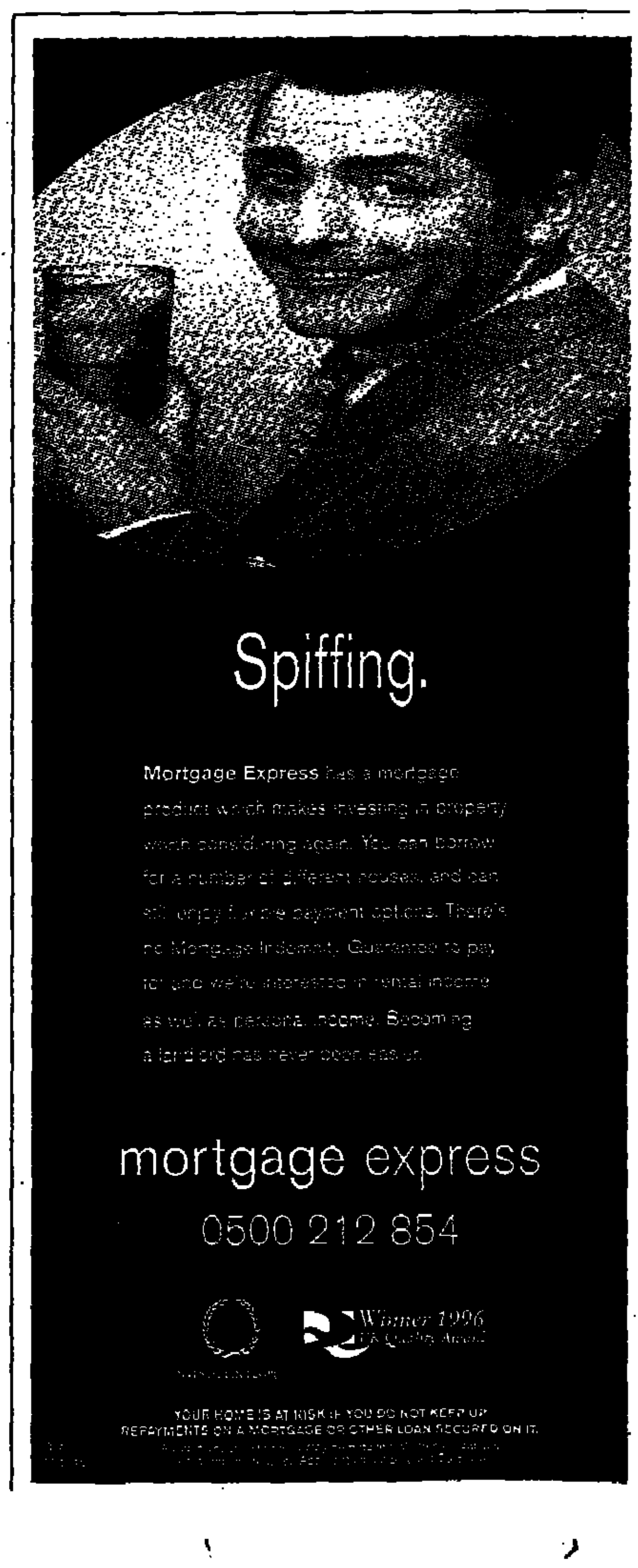
By Raymond Snoddy, Media Editor

SAM CHISHOLM, who retires as chief executive of British Sky Broadcasting at the end of this year, pushed *his take-home pay to a record in 1997* — of £6.83 million. The package compares with £3.84 million last year. The main reason for the rise is that Mr Chisholm exercised a right to 1.7 million "notional shares" arising from the BSkyB flotation, which lead to a profit of £5.12 million.

After he retires, Mr Chisholm will remain a non-executive director for two years and will receive his full pay under a revised service agreement for *an average of ten days'* work a month. Mr Chisholm will continue to receive 0.5 per cent of BSkyB's profits under the senior management bonus scheme, expected to be worth at least £1.5 *million* a year. He *also has rights to* more than 750,000 shares at an option price of £5.675 a share, which means they are currently worthless. BSkyB *shares ended at 462½p yesterday.*

David Chance, deputy managing director of BSkyB, in which News International, *owner of The Times*, has a 40 per cent *stake*, received total payments of £3.05 *million in the year to* June, up from £2.65 million. Mr Chance, who is also leaving at the end of this year, will remain as a consultant to the satellite company for 12 months, for an average of ten days a month. He will be paid per working day based on his existing salary and entitlement in the management bonus scheme.

Elisabeth Murdoch, BSkyB general manager and an alternate director, had total remuneration, including *pension*, of £298,103.



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David Jones, the entrepreneur who founded ShareLink, surveying work at his creation, whose American parent company is renaming it to reflect an international strategy

US parent to rename ShareLink broker

By Richard Miles

SHARELINK, the telephone-based stockbroker founded in 1987, is to disappear at the end of this year. Its American parent, Charles Schwab, yesterday said it is to drop the ShareLink name in favour of its own.

Charles Schwab, a US brokerage, bought ShareLink two years ago from its founder, David Jones, for £39.5 million, and now wants to use it as a springboard for expansion into continental Europe.

Guy Knight, vice-president, said that the name ShareLink did not fit Charles Schwab's wider ambitions, which could lead the broker into institutional business, as well as extending its services to wealthy private investors.

"We are the UK division of an international company, and we are more and more looking for international growth," he said, adding that Charles Schwab had set iself the goal of growing its $350 billion of customer assets to $1 trillion by 2005.

ShareLink, to be rebranded Charles Schwab Europe by the end of the year, has been criticised for poor service standards, with many clients complaining that its telephone lines were always engaged.

BCC voices concern over effects of strong pound

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

THE British Chambers of Commerce said yesterday that manufacturers' profits and confidence were suffering from a sharp decline in export activity caused by the strong pound and stiff domestic competition.

Manufacturing exports are at their lowest since the third quarter of 1992 although the service sector remains buoyant.

David Richardson, BCC president, said: "The exceptionally high level of sterling earlier in the year dealt a savage blow to the UK manufacturing industry, the effects of which are now beginning to feed through as manufacturers begin to lose ground to increasing levels of foreign competition, both at home and overseas.

"A sharp decline in the levels of home and export orders taken over the last three months indicates that the situation is not likely to improve in the short term."

The BCC said that manufacturers were absorbing rising costs by reducing profits and in that context interest rates "should stay where they are for the time being". Rates should stay "as low as possible", since any new rise would push sterling up still further.

Ian Peters, BCC deputy director-general, said business did not believe that the pound could be talked down in the long term although it accepted that positive indications on economic and monetary union had helped to ease the pressure on industry from high sterling.

But he added: "A statement from the Chancellor making clear our intentions with regard to EMU (those intentions should be that we should not enter in the first wave but at a later point) would help reduce the value of the pound."

The BCC's latest survey of almost 8,000 companies shows a "significant deterioration" in export sales, with manufacturers' exports now falling. It said the warnings business had been giving about the strength of the pound were now coming true.

Having lost export orders, manufacturers would find it very difficult to regain them, particularly since strong domestic activity meant that imports made more attractive by sterling's strength were being sucked into the UK economy, with the result that only a third of manufacturers were forecasting improving profitability.

Promising vaccine boosts Medeva

By Paul Durman

MEDEVA, the pharmaceuticals company, plans to file for regulatory approval of the hepatitis B vaccine that is potentially its most important product to date.

The company, best known for its methylphenidate treatment for hyperactive children, yesterday released trial results that suggested its Hepagene vaccine has some significant benefits over existing products. It also reported results that suggest Hepagene can be used to "cure" chronic carriers of the hepatitis B virus.

Medeva hopes to take 20 to 30 per cent of the vaccine market. If approval is granted, it may be able to start selling the vaccine by the end of 1999. Medeva shares rose 20½p to 245½p.

Electricity bills to fall £24

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

ELECTRICITY bills will be cut by an average £24 over the next two years, under price controls to be implemented when the household market opens to competition next April.

Low-income customers on pre-payment meters will benefit from the same cost reductions, Stephen Littlechild, the regulator, said.

The bill cuts will average 9 per cent after two years with 6 per cent being cut next year and 3 per cent the following year. But reductions will vary considerably from region to region.

London faces the highest bill cut at 14.8 per cent over two years, followed by Eastern at 11.9 per cent. ScottishPower bills will fall just 5.2 per cent.

Regional electricity companies now have one month to decide whether to accept controls, which have been watered down from a regime that would have cut £32 off an average bill. Regional companies claim that not enough pressure is being exerted on the generators, whose prices account for more than half of an electricity bill.

Yesterday the electricity pool, the wholesale market for power, agreed to vote on a review of its trading procedures at next week's annual meeting. But consumer groups are demanding action from the Department for Trade and Industry.

AN EXCLUSIVE TIMES LIVE OFFER THE TIMES

Best shows, best seats

The floor of the Royal Albert Hall will be awash for the first time in its 126-year history when a new production of *Madam Butterfly* opens there in February.

A Japanese water garden complete with a series of walkways and bridges leading to Madam Butterfly's house — sitting on stilts — is to be built for Puccini's opera.

This opera-in-the-round promises to be a spectacular experience and is just one of the exciting offers *The Times* has arranged for readers during the autumn and winter seasons.

The opera, which will be performed between February 19 and 27, is directed by David Freeman, founder of the Opera Factory, one of whose recent productions was *A Winter's Tale* at the new Globe Theatre. This new production of *Madam Butterfly* is the fourth joint project by the Royal Albert Hall and Raymond Gubbay and follows the success of *La Boheme* last year and *Carmen* and *Swan Lake* earlier this year.

Times readers can enjoy priority booking for all performances. Ticket prices range from £18.50 to £39.50. A £2 booking fee per ticket applies. All shows begin at 7.30pm and finish at approximately 10.20pm. Offer closes October 24, 1997.

Call **0990 800 500** to book your tickets

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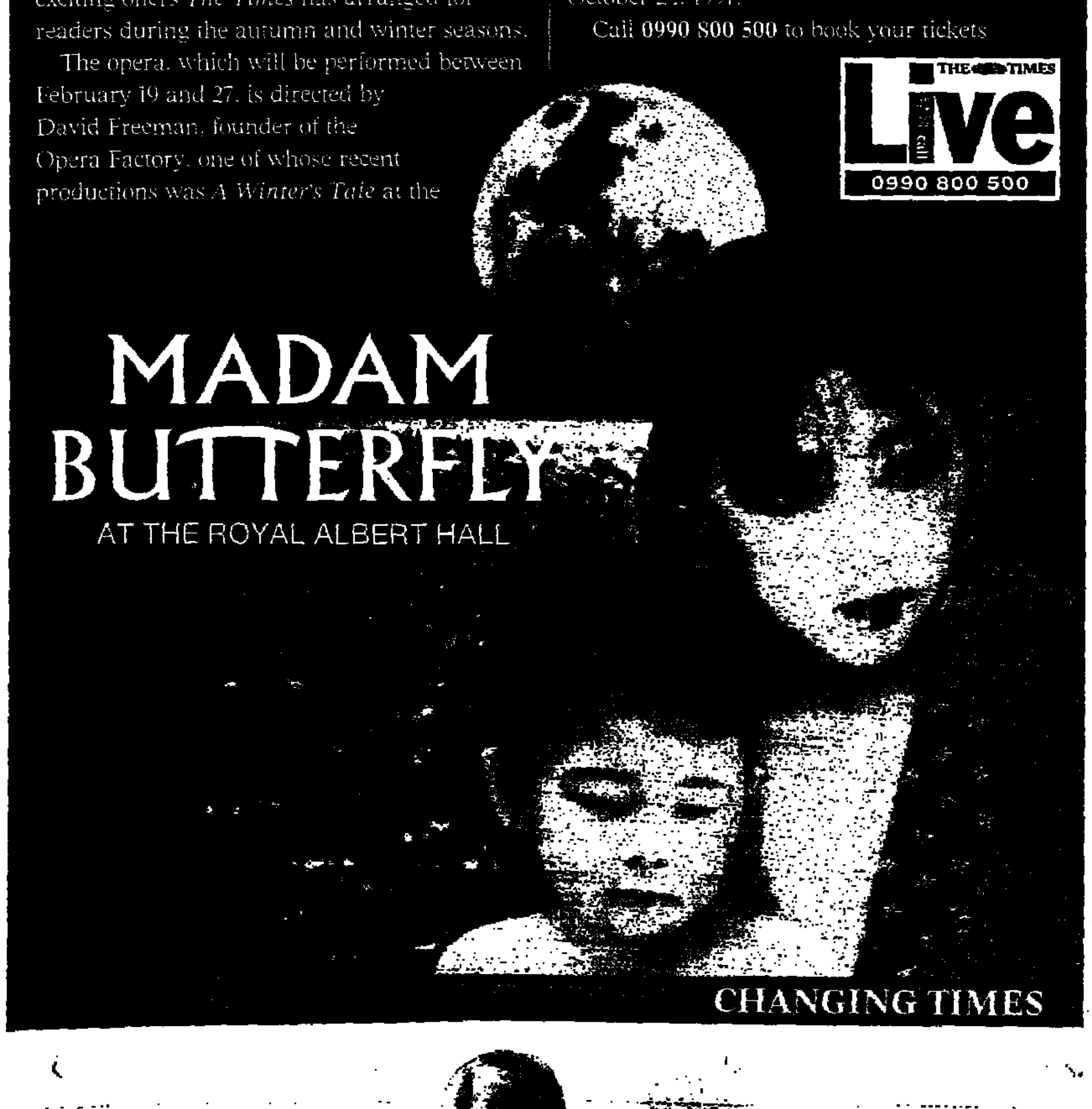

Utilities lead bad bill payers

UTILITIES are among the worst bill payers in the country, followed by financial services groups, brewers and the motor industry, new private research claims. By contrast, banks and grocers are relatively good at meeting their obligations (Graham Searjeant writes).

Firms in the four laggard sectors take on average more than 60 days to meet invoices from suppliers, according to Experian, the information service company. Its analysis of payment records of 250,000 trading companies found that utilities take an average 61.78 days to pay against 50.68 days for firms in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, the best of 28 industrial sectors.

Among big firms, construction and equipment hire are rated the worst, taking an average 75 days. But utilities (73 days) and financial services (72 days) are not far behind. Big banks, best of the heavyweights, manage to pay bills in 64 days.

Nationwide to deter speculators

By Caroline Merrell

NATIONWIDE, the UK's biggest building society, hopes to deter speculators by forcing new customers to sign an agreement promising to give any windfall after a demutualisation to charity.

The society, which this year successfully defended itself against an attempt by carpetbaggers to get elected to the board to force a flotation, wants to try to stop people opening accounts in order to get a windfall.

The society is also reducing the amount needed to open an account to £1.

The Nationwide decided to introduce a £5,000 minimum on accounts after intense speculation about whether it would be forced to convert in to a bank like the Halifax, Woolwich and Alliance & Leicester.

In July alone, £1.3 billion was transferred to the society, much of this new money coming from carpetbaggers.

Exchange acts to halt Snake in the Grass

THE Snake in the Grass has been defanged. The Stock Exchange yesterday outlawed the share dealing strategy designed to make a quick profit from someone else's typing errors, before it could threaten its new electronic market launched on Monday (Adam Jones writes).

The ruse involved traders inputting absurd orders, for example to buy at 1p. These may be automatically filled if another trader enters the wrong price or naively agrees to trade "at best price" when liquidity is poor.

The Stock Exchange said yesterday that anyone who inputs an order more than 20 per cent adrift from the prevailing price may be fined for market abuse. As a transitional measure, the Exchange also said orders more than 10 times normal market size will be rejected.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells		Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.30	2.13	Malta	0.662	0.603
Austria Sch	20.91	19.25	Netherlds Gld	3.378	3.083
Belgium Fr	61.58	56.80	New Zealand $	2.67	2.43
Canada $	2.375	2.197	Norway Kr	11.96	11.02
Cyprus Cyp£	0.880	0.808	Portugal Esc	300.53	278.50
Denmark Kr	11.38	10.47	S Africa Rd	8.31	7.35
Finland Mkk	9.05	8.30	Spain Pta	249.79	221.00
France Fr	9.95	9.17	Sweden Kr	13.07	11.97
Germany Dm	2.99	2.75	Switzerland Fr	2.51	2.29
Greece Dr	471	432	Turkey Lira	299032	278154
Hong Kong $	13.37	12.17	USA $	1.726	1.583
Iceland	128	109			
Ireland Pt	1.16	1.07			
Israel Shk	6.01	5.39			
Italy Lira	2941	2704			
Japan Yen	209.49	191.90			

Rates for small denomination bank notes supplied by Barclays Bank. Other rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Pru sales hit by staff retraining

PRUDENTIAL CORPORATION said yesterday that third-quarter sales were adversely affected by the retraining of its 4,800-strong salesforce in August and September. UK single premiums fell £33 million to £903 million between the second and third quarter, while regular premiums dropped £41 million to £57 million. The three-day retraining of sales staff came after the Securities and Investments Board ruled that the company's in-house training and competence regime was not tough enough. About 240 sales staff, or 5 per cent, have failed the test and could face redundancy. A slightly lower number have also failed to gain the financial planning certificate they require to hold a licence. The company gave warning that retraining may affect final-quarter sales.

Gas cheats face curbs

UNSCRUPULOUS gas traders who mislead customers will face unlimited fines and suppliers will be banned from working with agents who demand upfront money under new curbs planned by the gas industry regulator. Clare Spottiswoode, head of Ofgas, has backed calls from the Gas Consumers Council by proposing a marketing crackdown carrying the force of law. The restrictions would effectively outlaw the growing number of brokers who ask households for cash to secure cheap energy deals in the competitive market.

Jarvis deal agreed

MINISTERS have imposed conditions to allow the £50 million acquisition of Fastline by Jarvis, the railway maintenance company, without referral to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Nigel Griffiths, the Competition Minister, called for undertakings that Fastline will make its specialist machinery available to competitors and that there will be no cross-subsidy within the group. Jarvis's main rivals claim the acquisition of Fastline will give its new owner huge advantages in winning contract work from Railtrack.

M&S expands in Spain

MARKS & SPENCER, the department store group, is to open a new store at Zaragoza in North East Spain on November 25, the latest plank in an expansion plan across Europe and the Far East. The company said the Zaragoza branch will be its seventh store in Spain. M&S said that it plans to open stores in Torrejón de Ardoz, outside Madrid and in Bilbao during 1998. For 1999, projects include a store in Barcelona. M&S said its aim is to have opened 15 stores across Spain before the year 2000.

Firm action on concrete

A NINE-YEAR legal battle against cartels in the ready-mixed concrete sector ended yesterday with action against a further 13 companies, the Office of Fair Trading said. The firms were accused of fixing prices and agreeing to share markets in contravention of competition laws. The 13 were involved in the same cartels as 17 other companies that were fined record amounts totalling £8.4 million two years ago. Two of the firms in yesterday's action were ordered to clear specified agreements with the OFT. The other 11 undertook to do the same.

Coca-Cola sales rise

COCA-COLA earned $1.01 billion (£616 million) in the third quarter, up 5 per cent from $967 million a year earlier on sales that rose 11 per cent to $4.9 billion. Growth was attributed to increases in its core brands, such as Coca-Cola and Sprite, and to new soft drinks, such as Surge and Citra. Wordwide unit case volume, which includes soft drinks sold in supermarkets and other retail outlets, increased 11 per cent. US case volume climbed 7 per cent. European unit sales increased 16 per cent.

Cable firm changes tack

GENERAL CABLE, the fourth-largest quoted cable television company, has lost patience with the way it has to sell cable television and is to concentrate on telecommunications services, with the emphasis on offering packages of telephone and cable television services. New customers who want to buy packages of television channels on their own will have to pay higher prices. As a result of the changes, which include reorganising to reflect market sectors rather than geographic areas, there will be an exceptional charge of £35 million in 1997.

BA in Finnair pact

BRITISH AIRWAYS has signed a co-operation agreement with Finnair, Finland's national carrier. The two companies will share their frequent-flyer programs and develop routes, customer service and marketing together. Finnair hopes to counter existing alliances between rival operators by forging a link with BA. No mutual ownership or changes in personnel are planned, said Antti Potila, Finnair chief executive. Finnair last year flew 6.2 million passengers. It has 45 overseas destinations and 21 within Finland.

Prudential announce a rate change of great interest to savers.

Prudential Banking plc is pleased to announce an increase in its 60 Day Notice Account interest rates as indicated below. Customers can make the first two withdrawals without notice, penalty free. The 60 Day Notice Account minimum opening balance for new customers will be £5,000.

Privilege Account rates will alter in line with the 60 Day Notice Account.

These changes take effect from Friday 17th October 1997. For further information phone 0800 000 222 or contact your Prudential representative.

60 Day Notice Account

	Annual Rates (inc. loyalty bonus*)		Monthly Rates† (exc. loyalty bonus which is paid annually)	
Amount	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.†	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.†
£5,000+	6·60%	5·28%	5·46%	4·37%
£10,000+	7·60%	6·08%	6·41%	5·13%

RATES FOR BALANCES BELOW £5,000 REMAIN UNCHANGED. *THE RATES INCLUDE A LOYALTY BONUS OF 1.0% GROSS PA (0.8% NET PA) CALCULATED DAILY AND PAID ANNUALLY ON THE ANNIVERSARY DATE. THIS IS PAID PROVIDED THE ACCOUNT IS STILL OPEN AND IN THE PRECEDING 12 MONTHS NO MORE THAN TWO WITHDRAWALS HAVE BEEN MADE AND THE BALANCE HAS NOT BEEN LESS THAN £2,000. IF THE BALANCE FALLS BELOW £2,000 INTEREST WILL BE PAID AT THE PRUDENTIAL HIGH INTEREST DEPOSIT ACCOUNT RATES. †ASSUMING DEDUCTION OF LOWER RATE INCOME TAX AT 20% AND ROUNDED TO TWO DECIMAL PLACES. †THESE RATES ARE ILLUSTRATIVE, INTEREST IS PAID ON THE MONTHLY ANNIVERSARY DATE OF OPENING THE ACCOUNT AND IS THEREFORE CALCULATED ON THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF DAYS BETWEEN PAYMENTS. MONTHLY INTEREST IS PAID EXCLUDING THE LOYALTY BONUS WHICH IS PAID ANNUALLY. [illegible]

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Question of BAT — and all that jazz

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Kenneth Clarke's sense of humour is clearly being given free reign as he builds a choice portfolio of lucrative jobs to run alongside his position as a backbench MP. Who but the former Chancellor would think of pairing the chairmanship of a chemist's business with the deputy chairmanship of a tobacco company?

Former Chancellors, however, are becoming unpredictable. Lord Lawson of Blaby has plunged, with some success, into the hugely competitive field of writing diet books. In his spare time, he found time to make commercials for one unit trust company while sitting on the board of a rival financial organisation. Ken Clarke is fitting in a temporary stint presenting a jazz programme on the radio before getting into the serious business of selling cigarettes. Whether that, too, is to be only temporary depends on the strength of his teasing about whether or not he still harbours ambitions to lead the Tory Party.

Yesterday BAT was being coy about it will be paying Mr Clarke for his contribution, but it will certainly be a useful top up to his backbencher's pay. Apart from being a jolly chap to have around at board meetings, and a dedicated user of the product, it is not quite clear what else he will have to contribute to the company. The main emphasis for BAT is in expanding into new and far flung markets and, despite his long stint in government, Mr Clarke is not particularly well placed to open doors overseas for the company.

But quite why Martin Broughton should have opted for the fun-loving jazz fan as his deputy is only one of the unanswered questions hovering over BAT's £23 million deal with Zurich Insurance.

The City had hoped for elucidation yesterday but was left still puzzling as to why BAT has opted for this route to demerger rather than the oft-mooted link with Commercial Union.

Although the fast gathering trend is towards the globalisation of insurance companies, the decision to keep all the existing brands, including the perenially problematic Eagle Star, is puzzling. Quite how this is going to enable cost savings of £150 million to be made remains unclear, and Rolf Huppi, Zurich's chairman, is keeping mum on the subject.

With the imagination for which his countrymen are renowned, the UK end of the business is now to be quoted in London as Allied Zurich.

If the strategy for this business is still behind something of a smoke haze, the prospects for BAT look somewhat clearer. As a pure tobacco company, a term that Ken Clarke would surely appreciate, BAT may command a higher rating than it has when mixed in with financial services.

With its debt burden restructured, the company will be in a stronger position to expand into areas where the full delights of tobacco are only just beginning to be appreciated. Perhaps the ex-Chancellor could help in the marketing?

Kissing Hardie goodbye

Preventing WH Smith from turning into the next Sears demands the attentions of a serious, professional chairman and an inspired chief executive. Unfortunately, the company has neither.

Richard Handover has had an inauspicious start as chief executive and Jeremy Hardie's performance as chairman has been, frankly, amateurish. It was Mr Hardie, lest we forget, who appointed Bill Cockburn as chief executive, only to watch him quit as soon as he got a better offer. The search over the summer for a new chief executive was an embarrassing affair, with names popping up and being swept aside with alarming regularity, making any sensible search impossible and the selection of Mr Handover, a company veteran, a dull inevitability.

Mr Hardie's reaction to the approach from Tim Waterstone verged on the hysterical. The public rubbishing, without any warning to Mr Waterstone, made it easy for the bookseller to insist that he had a right to be taken seriously — however dubious his proposals.

Similarly, however much the company protested that it had already been moving towards the new half-baked strategy it revealed yesterday, the timing made it impossible to take its claim seriously.

No one appears to know quite how or why Mr Hardie ever became chairman of WH Smith. He was on the board from 1988, became deputy chairman in 1992 and took the chair in 1994. Before that, he taught economics at Oxford and was once deputy chairman of the MMC. His interests are the arts and Liberal politics — he was once an SDP candidate. This makes him sound alarmingly similar to another retail chairman, J Sainsbury's Lord Sainsbury of Turville, whose reputation also carries the whiff of amateurism.

Mr Hardie insisted yesterday that he has come under no pressure to leave. The institutional investors have presumably been too polite to tell him to his face. Some of them ought to remind themselves how much money they lost being polite by giving Sears' management the benefit of the doubt.

However busy WH Smith's high-powered non-executives may be, they would be doing their duty if they were to ascertain the true feelings of the shareholders, and then tell Mr Hardie to look elsewhere for a sinecure. WH Smith has no room left for mistakes, and not replacing him would be its worst mistake yet.

Locking stable door before EMU bolts

Gordon Brown ,cannot apparently have it all his own way. He wants a lower pound to help Britain's hard-pressed exporters, and hints from the Treasury that the Government is warming towards the euro have been quite effective in depressing sterling in recent weeks. The British Chambers of Commerce yesterday asked for an even clearer statement of positive intent to bring the pound down further.

But these valiant efforts on behalf of British industry have now attracted some unwelcome attention from Europe's single currency ideologues. Yesterday, the Chancellor was irritatingly reminded that sterling is supposed to be stable for at least two years before qualifying for membership of the euro. The President of the European Monetary Institute talked disparagingly about the pound's sizeable fluctuations.

In the year to July, sterling appreciated a whopping 30 per cent against the mark. A clever bit of EMU spin has knocked the pound down some 7 per cent from its peak and there is little doubt that the Chancellor would like to see this slide extended.

Here's the rub. Sterling has actually been quite stable at a high level for some six months. If the pound were to hold on to much of its appreciation, Britain could be fit for monetary union in 18 months. But pushing the pound into another downward leg would be seen as another bout of volatility and leave Britain back at square one on its exchange rate credentials.

A lot of hot air

IT HAD to happen. Albert Fisher is now worried that the El Niño weather front may affect some of its food businesses. This comes on top of historic calamities, like the cold sea stopping the growth of Dutch cockles and a poor pea harvest, and the current bugbear, the frozen prawn glacier. If Stephen Walls was as good at running the company as he is at thinking of excuses for it, Albert Fisher would not be in such a mess.

DFS fails to lure windfall cash to its till

By Fraser Nelson

THE rapid advance of DFS showed the first signs of strain yesterday as the furniture chain coupled disappointing year-end results with a warning that recent trading had suffered a short downturn.

Sir Graham Kirkham, the Tory fundraiser who built the company, said that like-for-like growth in its stores plunged from 10 per cent to 2 per cent last year after no benefit was felt from building society windfalls.

Although he argued that the figure is irrelevant beside the pre-tax profits of £38.7 million (£31.1 million), the shares dropped 30½p to 570p.

Sir Graham said that the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, had led to an autumn slowdown in which weekly sales had plunged to £1 million at one point, against £7 million normally.

He said: "There has been a blip, an aberration, but these sales have just been deferred. Nobody else has been getting them. Anything we lost then we will recover later on."

Sir Graham played down the company's failure to capitalise on spending by windfall recipients, which has lifted sales of most big-ticket items. "These people are savers by nature nature," he said. "Its not just DFS, the same has been felt across the whole furniture industry."

He dismissed suggestions that DFS could be losing out because it specialises in selling high-price goods at interest-free credit — an offer giving little advantage to those with windfalls to spend.

City analysts adjusted pre-tax profit forecasts from £47.5 million to £45 million for next year, when the number of DFS stores should rise from 40 to 45.

The company spent around £17 million on advertising and marketing over the year, to accompany its entry to the London area. This depressed margins by 1.3 points, to 14.6 per cent, although operating profit jumped to £37.2 million (£29.3 million) and earnings per share to 24.8p (19.7p).

The dividend rises to 12.7p (10p), delivering £3.86 million to Sir Graham and his family, who own 28.7 per cent of DFS.

Celltech to work on blood drug

By Paul Durman

CELLTECH, the drug development company, is planning to work on a drug to tackle the blocking of arteries in patients who have undergone angioplasty operations to free their blood vessels.

The company hopes to prevent the build-up of cells that can be caused by stents, the tiny metal supports used during angioplasties. The drug will be developed by combining Celltech's CDP 860 antibody with technology it expects to license from ZymoGenetics, an American research firm linked to Novo Nordisk, the world's largest producer of industrial enzymes. The shares climbed 10p, to 337½p.

Celltech announced yesterday that it has an option to worldwide patents held by ZymoGenetics and the University of Washington.

Walls ready to change Fisher role

By Paul Durman

STEPHEN WALLS, chairman of Albert Fisher, is to give up his executive role once the food company has found a buyer for its seafood business. He will stay on as non-executive chairman (See Commentary, this page).

Fisher hopes to sell the seafood business before the end of the year. It plans to return the money it raises — perhaps £100 million — to shareholders who have seen the value of their investment halve in the past four years.

Pre-tax profits (excluding one-offs) were £100,000 better at £40.2 million for the year to August 31, helped by a £3.1 million reduction in the interest bill. The seafood business, increased operating profits from £7.7 million to £11.4 million.

A final dividend of 1.9p maintains the total at 3.75p.

Crystal team buys out travel groups

By Dominic Walsh

PETER DYER, the veteran head of Crystal Holidays, the tour operator, yesterday unveiled a £150 million management buyout of Crystal and Jetsave from Viad Corp, the US services company.

Mr Dyer, who founded Crystal in 1981 before selling it to Viad ten years later, is understood to have won in the face of strong interest from some of the biggest tour operators, including Airtours, Thomson and Carlson. The combined group will be renamed Crystal International Travel Group. The purchase price is thought to have been about £50 million, with bonding, insolvency and foreign exchange requirements accounting for most of the balance of £100 million.

Crystal and Jetsave, which between them carry about 400,000 passengers a year, have a combined turnover of £200 million and profit margins of 3-5 per cent. The brand names involved include Tropical Places and Crystal Ski, the UK's biggest skiing holiday operator.

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STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Shares gain strength from spate of corporate moves

MERGER mania again gripped investors and injected fresh support into the equity market, which had showed signs of running out of steam.

There was a stream of early corporate news to keep fund managers occupied as share prices got off to a positive start despite the overnight setback for Wall Street.

And when prices in London started to falter, they were lifted by an opening rise for the Dow Jones industrial average on the back of a subdued set of US consumer prices.

The FTSE 100 index closed a shade below its best of the day with a rise of 24.2 at 5,287.9 in thin trading, with 817 million shares changing hands.

BT made up for lost time, leaping 24½p to 471½p on turnover of 46 million shares. Overnight news of GTE's $28 billion (£17.2 billion) counterbid for MCI came after the official close of business in London on Wednesday. Brokers are hoping that BT, which still has 20 per cent in MCI, will eventually link up with GTE.

A lukewarm response was given to confirmation of the plan by **BAT Industries** to merge its financial services arm, including Allied Dunbar and Eagle Star, with Zurich. The price touched 619p before reverting to close 4½p lighter at 596½p.

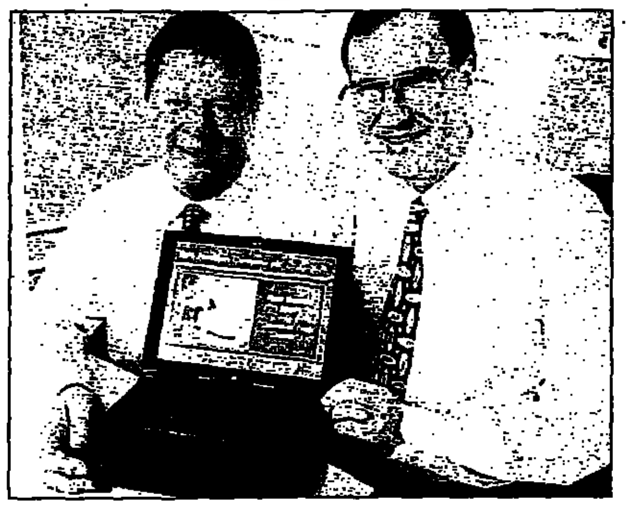
WH Smith rose 3½p to 405½p after the group rejected the revised terms from Tim Waterstone and put forward *its own restructuring plans.*

The £1.5 billion agreed bid from Federal-Mogul in the US lifted T&N 2½p to 256p. The terms value T&N at 260p a share compared with the 235p a share that Federal Mogul had thought of offering.

BICC was the best performer among the FTSE 250 with a jump of 21½p to 208p in turnover of almost three million shares. This despite downgradings from ABN Amro Hoare Govett and Cazenove.

On Wednesday, talk suggested it was about to sell its Balfour Beatty construction arm, while some brokers have focused on the bid for troubled Redland. They say BICC may go the same way.

Newsquest established a modest premium in first-time trading after a placing of shares at 250p. Shares in the regional newspaper publisher started life in "when issued" form at 255p, but later gave up ground to close 252½p, a premium of 2½p. A total of 4.13 million shares were traded.



Sir Graham Kirkham and Jon Massey of DFS, down 30½p

Figures from fast-growing **DFS**, headed by Sir Graham Kirkham, chairman, and Jon Massey, executive director, failed to live up to expectations and the shares dropped 30½p to 570p. The company confounded brokers by saying it had not seen much benefit from the building society windfall bonuses. This revelation also hit **MFI**, down 6p at 134½p.

Marks & Spencer remains a weak market, dropping a further 10½p to 625p. In the past couple of weeks the price has fallen from a peak of 664½p, with some brokers claiming the shares are fully valued. **Kingfisher** also came off the boil, losing 9p at 833½p. **Great Universal Stores** held steady at 712½p after a meeting with brokers on Wednesday. The company was giving little away.

Meanwhile, the Capital Group of Companies has emerged with a stake in **Storehouse**, ½p firmer at 237½p, of 14.36 million shares, or 3.4 per cent.

Break for the Border, the themed restaurant operator, is thought to be on the verge of announcing its first disposal. The group, unchanged at 51½p, is expected to unveil the sale of Lawson Beaumont, its outside events business, to Gardner Merchant, the UK's biggest contract caterer, for around £2 million.

Jarvis stood out with a leap of 36p to a new high of 318½p after being given the go-ahead by the Government to acquire Fastline, the track renewal company, for £64 million.

Signs of institutional support lifted **Deltron Electronics** 11p to 135½p. At least one fund manager has been snapping up stock.

The stamp of approval was good news for **Care First**, with the price adding 12p to 115p. It has been nominated by Norwich Union as a preferred provider of care home services.

Coffee Republic, just a day after completing its reverse takeover of Arion Properties, revealed a plan to run coffee bars concessions in French *Connection's stores.* The shares rose 6p at 28p.

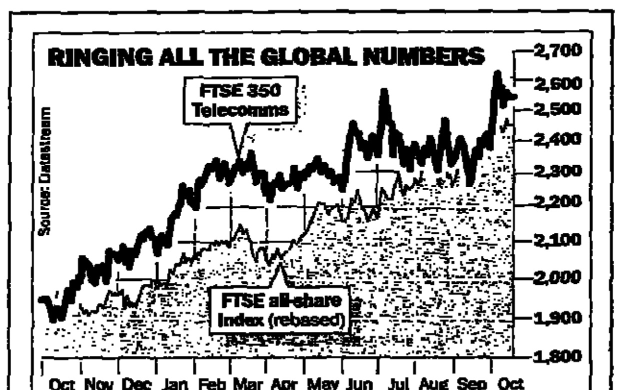
Vega Group, *hit by a profits* warning last month, rallied *20p to 245p on news of an* RAF contract worth £275 million over 20 years.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Early gains proved short lived, with prices drifting back across the board after the higher than expected Government borrowing requirement number. The worst falls were once again seen at the longer end, stretching to more than £½.

In futures, the December series of the long gilt ended £$^{9}/_{32}$ lower at £119$^{1}/_{32}$ in heavy turnover with 151,000 contracts completed.

Treasury 8 per cent 2015 finished £$^{17}/_{32}$ off at £115$^{23}/_{32}$, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 limited the fall to just a couple of ticks at £103$^{13}/_{32}$.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street turned lower, with program selling partly blamed. By midday the *Dow Jones industrial* average was 9.33 points lower *at 8,048.65.*



THE growing number of suitors queuing up for MCI has underlined the emphasis being placed on globalisation in the telecoms industry and the high prices that companies are willing to pay.

British Telecom rose sharply yesterday as the arbitrageurs rushed to cover their short positions established since WorldCom launched its counterbid for MCI. Other telecom players with also came into focus with Cable & Wireless up 5p at 550½p, European Telecom 26p at 305p, Vodafone 10½p at 357½p, while Securicor, on 289p, and Colt Telecom, at 576½p, put on 5p apiece.

Brokers say American investors have been quick to realise that the valuation base has changed when it comes to telecom companies. They now take a strategic view. It's what separates the global players from those companies that continue to stand alone. British investors still value these companies on fundamentals.

As one broker commented: "These days it is a case of focus, or die. You cannot stand alone".

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 8048.65 (-9.33)
S&P Composite .... 967.32 (+1.60)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average .... 17707.49 (+376.12)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 13567.26 (+183.02)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index .... 912.01 (-11.61)

Sydney:
AO .... 2683.0 (-0.7)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 4118.22 (-75.47)

Singapore:
Straits .... 1804.24 (-50.79)

Brussels:
General .... 13799.17 (+26.91)

Paris:
CAC-40 .... 2992.87 (+0.71)

Zurich:
SKA Gen .... 1232.90 (Same)

London:
FT 30 .... 3430.3 (+13.5)
FTSE 100 .... 5287.9 (+24.2)
FTSE 250 .... 4963.8 (+28.0)
FTSE 350 .... 2546.4 (+12.1)
FTSE Eurotrack 100 .... 2691.11 (-13.98)
FTSE All-Share .... 2487.28 (+11.90)
FTSE Non Financials .... 2504.34 (+11.63)
FTSE Fixed Interest .... 132.78 (+0.04)
FTSE Govt Secs .... 100.13 (-0.36)
Bargains 48333
SEAQ Volume 817.9m
US$ .... 1.6208 (-0.0024)
German Mark .... 2.8267 (-0.0154)
Exchange Index .... 99.8 (-0.5)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.4492
£:SDR 1.1817
RPI .... 159.3 Sep (3.6%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX .... 157.8 Sep (2.7%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Aggreko	171½	− 1
Buckland Inv Wrts	10	...
Buckland Inv	17½	...
Cairngorm Demtl IT	96½	...
Cairngrm Demtl Wrt	20	...
Cambury Inv Wrts	¼	...
Cambury Invesments	2½	...
Computerland UK	140½	...
Creative Publishing	158	...
I S Solutions	147½	...
Latchways (155)	174½	...
Metalsrussia	79½	+ 9
NSB Retail Sys	165½	+ 3
Northern Rock	497½	+ 2
Nottingham Frst (70)	63	...
SHL Group	278½	...
Solitaire	187½	+ 5

RIGHTS ISSUES

Berkeley n/p (560)	125½	− 6½
Consid Coal n/p (5)	½	...
Dawn Til Dusk n/p	40	...
Premier Assetn/p (13)	1¼	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
Jarvis .... 318½p (+36p)
BICC .... 208p (+21½p)
Euro Telecom .... 305p (+26p)
Gaskell .... 405p (+30p)
Admiral .... 580p (+37½p)
Henlys .... 396p (+25p)
Eng China Cl .... 290½p (+14p)
Scotia .... 420p (+20p)
Ladbroke .... 307½p (+10p)
Delta .... 341p (+11p)
Celltech .... 337½p (+10p)

FALLS:
DFS Furniture .... 570p (-30½p)
Dawson Hldgs .... 205p (-10p)
Royalblue .... 249p (-10½p)
Carrs Milling .... 300p (-10p)
Capital Radio .... 531p (-15½p)
Marks Spencer .... 625p (-10½p)
Stand Chart .... 782½p (-13p)
Andrew Sykes .... 650p (-10p)
Prudential .... 689p (-10p)
Br Airways .... 634p (-8½p)
Kingfisher .... 833½p (-9p)

Closing Prices Page 32

TEMPUS

It's good to negotiate

GTE has thrown a lifeline to Sir Peter Bonfield worth $5.6 billion. In itself, it provides a graceful exit for British Telecom from a potentially hazardous adventure in financing MCI's attempt to create a local telephone network in the US. BT's apparent surprise at the dirty tricks used by the Baby Bells in defending their patch from MCI incursion suggested some lack of research. It also showed curious unwillingness to draw on the UK experience where challenges to the BT monopoly have had distinctly mixed success.

BT could walk away with a *bundle of cash* to dangle at its shareholders. But BT investors are already getting *special payments* and the challenge in this industry is wise investment, *not hoarding pennies.* Mega-bids in the US may be a sign of a bull market peaking but these companies are also playing a strategic *game that* Europeans cannot afford to ignore. GTE's bid is interesting because it has built up a *big local network* in suburban America with important stakes in cities such as Dallas, *Los Angeles and* Tampa. Not being part of the former Ma Bell monopoly, GTE is not subject to the restriction that is slowing the Baby Bell's incursion into the long-distance market dominated by MCI, Sprint and AT&T.

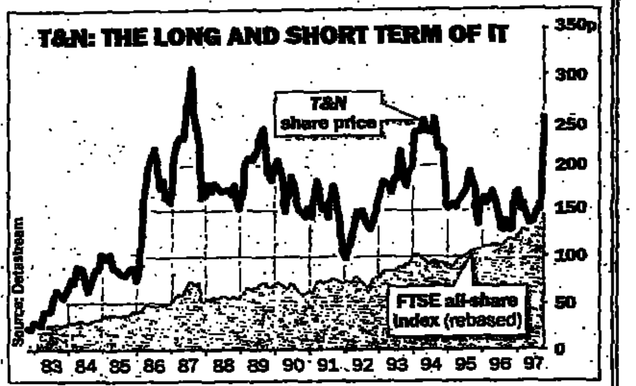
This cute strategy could offer BT a more painless way into a local US network than through bankrolling MCI's development. A *tripartite* alliance could feed local UK traffic directly to local subscribers in the US on lines in which BT had an interest. Overseas takeovers are an expensive way to secure control but in this hi-tech industry there are more subtle ways of securing market share. BT shares are looking more interesting.

T&N

NO fund manager will rush to accept a bid lest he deter better offers but T&N's leading shareholders are a bit lukewarm about *Federal-Mogul's* offer. T&N has been a rotten investment over the past ten years and the company is recommending an offer that values T&N at about 14.5 *times* current year earnings, a 20 per cent discount to the market as a whole. The uplift simply restores some of the value lost to worries about asbestos and the disdain shown by some investors towards nuts and bolts engineers.

This bid is about perceptions and if anyone doubts that American investors are taking a different view of T&N, they should take a look at the US market's reaction to Federal Mogul. The US motor parts group will be saddled with $3 billion in debt, no small challenge for a group with a market value of $1.7 billion. At the same time they will take a massive £367 million provision to rid their revenue *account of* future charges for asbestos. *Yet Federal-Mogul's share* price has risen from $33 to *$45 on since the* bid was first mooted.

Of course, there will be cash from disposals and savings from closing surplus operations. But in this bull market, *even allowing for* asbestos, it is extraordinary *that a key player in* the worldwide automotive industry should be sold at less than an average rating. There is no hurry to accept this bid.



Newsquest

THE *Newsquest float turns* out to be a respectable, rather *than a joyous affair.* Struck at 250p, the price was at the lower end of expectations and the subsequent 2½p rise in yesterday's trading reinforced the view that although the issue was oversubscribed, the pricing kept the speculative froth to a minimum.

Newsquest is deservedly priced at a discount to both Trinity International and Johnson Press. Trinity, in particular, has big titles in cities such as Liverpool and Belfast and Johnson has a well-deserved reputation for canny acquisitions and boosting profits.

To that extent, the Newsquest team, which has a lot of free newspapers in its stable, has something to prove. The realistic pricing implies the possibility of above average growth and Jim Brown and his management *know the business of* local newspapers backwards. *The unsung story of the* recovery of local and regional *newspaper industry* is beginning to be told. Investors from no less than 11 countries bought a slice of a very local British business with American investors taking a 10 per cent stake in the company.

A further good indication is that more than 80 per cent of the staff bought shares — an additional sign of commitment to drive up future value.

BTR

IAN STRACHAN appears to be enjoying a new lease of life at BTR. Largely ineffectual during the first 12 months of his tenure as chief executive, Strachan has entered a period of hyperactivity that has, ultimately, succeeded in lifting BTR's shares after a prolonged period of decline.

Many in the City have lost their shirts by seeking to call the turn in BTR shares, only to be bitterly disappointed by *further underperformance.* But the appointment of the *respected Bob Bauman* as chairman in August has galvanised BTR into action. Last month Strachan put forward his vision of the company's future as a focused engineering company, divested of interests in building products, packaging and polymers.

Disposals are just one half of the equation. The other half relates to the core engineering business, which has suffered from an acute lack of investment. With disposals raising about £3 billion, funds should become available to be ploughed back into engineering. The $585 million purchase of Exide gives additional clout in a growing but competitive market, albeit at steepish price, and Exide's margins of 9.1 per cent require attention.

BTR shares are off the bottom but *at 235p, against a low* of 180p, the price is probably up to speed with events. Investors must be patient.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

BRITISH FUNDS

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gr red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
106[illegible]	100[illegible]	Exch 15% 1997	100[illegible]	...	14.97	7.02
115[illegible]	113[illegible]	Treas [illegible]% 1998	115[illegible]		4.00	6.40
103[illegible]	100[illegible]	Exch 9[illegible]% 1998	100[illegible]		9.69	6.96
101[illegible]	100[illegible]	Treas 7[illegible]% 1998	100[illegible]	+ [illegible]	7.24	6.93
110[illegible]	103[illegible]	Treas 14% 1998-01	103[illegible]	− [illegible]	13.46	7.03
114[illegible]	107[illegible]	Treas 15[illegible]% 1998	107[illegible]	− [illegible]	14.33	7.01
105[illegible]	105	Exch 12% 1998	105[illegible]		11.42	7.05
105[illegible]	102[illegible]	Treas 9[illegible]% 1999	102[illegible]	..	9.23	6.98
111[illegible]	106[illegible]	Exch 12[illegible]% 1999	107[illegible]		11.44	7.03
108[illegible]	105[illegible]	Treas 10[illegible]% 1999	105[illegible]	.	9.98	6.94
99[illegible]	96[illegible]	Treas 6% 1999	98[illegible]	− [illegible]	6.09	6.87
109[illegible]	106[illegible]	Conv 10[illegible]% 1999	106[illegible]	− [illegible]	9.84	6.94
106[illegible]	104[illegible]	Conv 9% 2000	104[illegible]	− [illegible]	8.61	6.90
104[illegible]	102[illegible]	Treas 8% 2000	103[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.74	6.75
104[illegible]	102[illegible]	Treas 8[illegible]% 2000	103[illegible]	− [illegible]	8.23	6.92
119[illegible]	114[illegible]	Treas 13% 2000	114[illegible]	− [illegible]	11.31	6.87
112[illegible]	98[illegible]	Treas 10% 2001	109[illegible]	− [illegible]	9.14	6.81
101[illegible]	98[illegible]	Treas 7% 2001	101[illegible]	− [illegible]	6.93	6.75
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
102[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 7% 2002	101[illegible]	− [illegible]	6.89	6.58
127[illegible]	109[illegible]	Treas 9[illegible]% 2002	112[illegible]	− [illegible]	8.67	6.69
107[illegible]	102[illegible]	Treas 8% 2003	106[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.51	6.58
117[illegible]	111[illegible]	Treas 10% 2003	116[illegible]	− [illegible]	8.60	6.83
116[illegible]	113[illegible]	Treas 11[illegible]% 2001-04	114[illegible]	− [illegible]	10.08	6.79
90[illegible]	82[illegible]	Fund 3[illegible]% 1999-04	89[illegible]	− [illegible]	3.92	5.48
118[illegible]	109[illegible]	Conv 9[illegible]% 2004	116[illegible]	− [illegible]	8.17	6.56
102[illegible]	94[illegible]	Treas 6[illegible]% 2004	101[illegible]	− [illegible]	6.67	6.52
114[illegible]	106[illegible]	Treas 8[illegible]% 2005	112[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.58	6.54
122[illegible]	110[illegible]	Conv 9[illegible]% 2005	117 †	− [illegible]	8.12	6.56
130[illegible]	124[illegible]	Treas 12[illegible]% 2003-05	128[illegible]	− [illegible]	9.69	6.63
108[illegible]	98[illegible]	Treas 7[illegible]% 2006	106[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.03	6.52
110[illegible]	99[illegible]	Treas 7[illegible]% 2006	107[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.18	6.56
106[illegible]	103[illegible]	Treas 8% 2002-06	105[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.61	6.77
123[illegible]	115[illegible]	Treas 11[illegible]% 2003-07	122[illegible]	− [illegible]	9.62	6.67
116[illegible]	105[illegible]	Treas 8[illegible]% 2007	113[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.47	6.58
107[illegible]	96[illegible]	Treas 7[illegible]% 2007	105[illegible]	− [illegible]	6.87	6.48
121[illegible]	108[illegible]	Treas 9% 2008	119[illegible] †	− [illegible]	7.55	6.53
114[illegible]	101	Treas 8% 2009	111[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.15	6.55
99[illegible]	86[illegible]	Treas 6[illegible]% 2010	97[illegible]	− [illegible]	6.43	6.57
124[illegible]	109[illegible]	Conv 9% 2011	121[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.40	6.58
125[illegible]	108[illegible]	Treas 9% 2012	122[illegible] †	− [illegible]	7.34	6.58
93[illegible]	80[illegible]	Treas 5[illegible]% 2008-12	91[illegible]	− [illegible]	6.07	6.46
112[illegible]	98[illegible]	Treas 7[illegible]% 2012-15	110[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.03	6.63
LONGS (over 15 years)						
118[illegible]	100[illegible]	Treas 8% 2013	114[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.01	6.58
118[illegible]	101[illegible]	Treas 8% 2015	115[illegible]	− [illegible]	6.91	6.50
126[illegible]	103[illegible]	Treas 8[illegible]% 2017	123[illegible]	− [illegible]	7.06	6.56
121[illegible]	101[illegible]	Tr 8% 2021	118[illegible]	− [illegible]	6.77	6.49
UNDATED						
54[illegible]	43[illegible]	War Ln 3[illegible]%	53[illegible]	− [illegible]	6.57	
38[illegible]	30[illegible]	Treas 2[illegible]%	36[illegible]	− [illegible]	6.77	...
59[illegible]	49[illegible]	Consols 4%	58[illegible]	− [illegible]	6.81	.
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					10%	5%
193[illegible]	184[illegible]	Treas IL 2[illegible]% 2001	192[illegible]	.	2.42	3.17
190[illegible]	180[illegible]	Treas IL 2[illegible]% 2003	189[illegible]	− [illegible]	2.65	3.17
123[illegible]	117[illegible]	Treas IL 4[illegible]% 2004	122[illegible] †	− [illegible]	2.70	3.15
203[illegible]	190	Treas IL 2% 2006	202[illegible]	− [illegible]	2.85	3.20
185	170[illegible]	Treas IL 2[illegible]% 2009	183[illegible]	− [illegible]	2.98	3.17
192[illegible]	176[illegible]	Treas IL 2[illegible]% 2011	191[illegible]	− [illegible]	2.94	3.18
159[illegible]	144[illegible]	Treas IL 2[illegible]% 2013	158[illegible]	− [illegible]	2.98	3.19
171[illegible]	153[illegible]	Treas IL 2[illegible]% 2016	170[illegible]	− [illegible]	3.00	3.20
167[illegible]	147[illegible]	Treas IL 2[illegible]% 2020	164[illegible] †	− [illegible]	3.06	3.22
139[illegible]	122[illegible]	Treas IL 2[illegible]% 2024	138[illegible]	− [illegible]	3.07	3.22
136[illegible]	119[illegible]	Treas IL 4[illegible]% 2030	135[illegible]	− [illegible]	3.07	3.21

LIFFE OPTIONS

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Dec 97	119-04	119-19	118-24	119-01	152122
Previous open interest 191698	Mar 98	119-00	119-00	118-28	118-31	2081
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Dec 97	102.34	102.40	101.74	101.92	313379
Previous open interest 302549	Mar 98	101.48	101.58	101.14	101.20	1298
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Dec 97	112.23	112.52	111.92	112.17	63499
Previous open interest 114760	Mar 98	112.38	112.38	112.38	112.12	14
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Dec 97	128.88	129.09	128.64	129.09	6423
	Mar 98	127.94	128.21	127.85	128.21	929
Three Mth Sterling	Dec 97	92.60	92.63	92.60	92.63	21442
	Mar 98	92.60	92.64	92.59	92.61	21162
Previous open interest 630777	Jun 98	92.64	92.68	92.63	92.64	24524
Three Mth Euromark	Jan 98	96.07	96.07	96.05	96.07	120
Previous open interest 1708199	Mar 98	95.89	95.89	95.77	95.80	108622
Three Mth Eurolira	Dec 97	93.94	93.98	93.91	93.96	23015
Previous open interest 458805	Mar 98	94.63	94.70	94.62	94.65	20841
Three Mth Euroyen	Mar 98				99.41	0
	Jun 98				99.34	0
Three Mth Euroswiss	Dec 97	97.98	98.00	97.93	97.98	7121
Previous open interest 186504	Mar 98	97.74	97.77	97.69	97.74	6626
Three Mth ECU	Dec 97	95.37	95.37	95.30	95.35	1380
Previous open interest 37982	Mar 98	95.26	95.26	95.23	95.24	690
FTSE 100	Dec 97	5345.0	5390.0	5307.0	5385.0	10706
Previous open interest 75185	Mar 98	5370.0	5416.5	5370.0	5433.5	186

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7 Finance Hse 7½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 16 Low 7 Week fixed: 7[illegible]
Treasury Bills (Dis):Buy: 2 mth 6[illegible]; 3 mth 6[illegible]. Sell: 2 mth 6[illegible]; 3 mth: 6[illegible].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis)	7[illegible]-6[illegible]	7[illegible]-7	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]
Interbank:	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]
Overnight: open 7½, close 11.					
Local Authority Deps:	7[illegible]	n/a	7[illegible]	7[illegible]	7[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.51	n/a	5.62	5.75	5.78
Building Society CDs:	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]	7[illegible]-7[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-[illegible]	5[illegible]-5[illegible]	5[illegible]-4[illegible]
Deutschemark:	3[illegible]-2[illegible]	3[illegible]-3[illegible]	3[illegible]-3[illegible]	3[illegible]-3[illegible]	4-3
French Franc:	3[illegible]-3[illegible]	3[illegible]-3[illegible]	3[illegible]-3[illegible]	3[illegible]-3[illegible]	3[illegible]-2[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	1[illegible]-1[illegible]	1[illegible]-1[illegible]	1[illegible]-1[illegible]	1[illegible]-[illegible]	2-1
Yen:	[illegible]-[illegible]	[illegible]-[illegible]	[illegible]-[illegible]	[illegible]-[illegible]	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $326.95-327.25 Close: $326.20-326.70 High: $327.10-327.60
Low: $326.20-326.70 AM: $327.30 PM: $327.35

Krugerrand: $326.00-328.00 (£201.00-203.00)

Platinum: $431.00 (£265.55) Silver: $4.95 (£3.055) *Palladium: $222.50 (£137.10)*

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Oct 16	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.1830-3.1874	3.1849-3.1873	1-[illegible]pr	2[illegible]-2[illegible]pr
Brussels	58.260-58.413	58.320-58.413	18-13pr	50-43pr
Copenhagen	10.757-10.779	10.762-10.770	[illegible]-[illegible]pr	[illegible]-[illegible]pr
Dublin	1.0982-1.1047	1.0998-1.1036	11-5pr	31-2pr
Frankfurt	2.8250-2.8287	2.8253-2.8276	[illegible]-[illegible]pr	2[illegible]-2[illegible]pr
Lisbon	287.58-288.19	287.79-288.03	[illegible]-[illegible]pr	[illegible]-[illegible]pr
Madrid	238.34-238.72	238.41-238.61	44-34pr	132-114pr
Milan	2762.6-2767.1	2762.7-2765.4	16pr-par	62-40pr
Montreal	2.2440-2.2502	2.2482-2.2502	0.68-0.63pr	1.38-1.29pr
New York	1.6176-1.6208	1.6200-1.6208	0.215-0.195pr	0.62-0.59pr
Oslo	11.325-11.413	11.325-11.338	[illegible]-[illegible]pr	1-[illegible]pr
Paris	9.4660-9.4880	9.4775-9.4841	3-2[illegible]pr	8[illegible]-8[illegible]pr
Stockholm	12.241-12.281	12.247-12.261	[illegible]-[illegible]pr	[illegible]-[illegible]pr
Tokyo	194.21-194.71	194.28-194.51	1[illegible]-1pr	3[illegible]-3[illegible]pr
Vienna	19.884-19.916	19.885-19.903	[illegible]-[illegible]pr	1[illegible]-1[illegible]pr
Zurich	2.3555-2.3608	2.3558-2.3586	1[illegible]-1pr	3[illegible]-3[illegible]pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3577-1.3586
Austria	12.28-12.29
Belgium (Com)	35.97-36.02
Canada	1.3872-1.3877
Denmark	6.6465-6.6485
France	5.8511-5.8531
Germany	1.7451-1.7456
Hong Kong	7.7385-7.7395
Ireland	1.4696-1.4716
Italy	1706.25-1707.25
Japan	120.14-120.24
Malaysia	3.1750-3.1850
Netherlands	1.9658-1.9668
Norway	7.0095-7.0115
Portugal	177.74-177.84
Singapore	1.5488-1.5498
Spain	147.20-147.25
Sweden	7.5677-7.5727
Switzerland	1.4552-1.4562

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6195-1.6222
Australia dollar	2.1996-2.2024
Bahrain dinar	0.6045-0.6185
Brazil real*	1.7754-1.7798
China yuan	13.290-13.590
Cyprus pound	0.8265-0.8455
Finland markka	8.4325-8.5735
Greece drachma	441.0-451.5
Hong Kong dollar	12.5387-12.5481
India rupee	58.14-59.44
Indonesia rupiah	n/a
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4860-0.4970
Malaysia ringgit	5.1441-5.1635
New Zealand dollar	2.5108-2.5150
Pakistan rupee	69.85 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8400-5.9750
Singapore dollar	2.5094-2.5125
S Africa rand (com)	7.5000-7.6090
U A E dirham	5.8925-6.0285

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FTSE VOLUMES

3I	979	Legal & Gn	2,000
ASDA Gp	7,700	Lloyds TSB	7,100
Abbey Ntl	2,500	LucasVarity	3,200
Allnce & Leic	2,500	Marks Spr	3,800
Allied Dom	3,500	NatWst Bk	3,500
AB Foods	603	Nat Grid	2,600
BAA	2,800	Nat Power	3,600
BAT Inds	20,700	Next	854
BG	3,700	Norwich Un	9,500
BOC	1,300	Orange	2,300
BP	6,800	P & O	1,700
BSkyB	5,900	Pearson	2,200
BTR	10,900	PowerGen	2,000
BT	46,200	Prudential	9,400
Bk of Scot	2,100	RMC	132
Barclays	2,400	Railtrack	588
Bass	2,900	Rank Group	3,500
Billiton	2,700	Reckitt Col	513
Blue Circle	494	Reed Intl	4,500
Boots	2,700	Rentokil	786
BAe	563	Reuters	1,100
BA	2,700	Rio Tinto	2,800
British Land	2,800	Rolls Royce	32,000
Brit Steel	17,100	*Royal & Sun*	5,200
Cable Wire	8,800	Royal Bk Sct	2,300
Cadbury	601	Safeway	4,400
Carlton Cms	2,100	*Sainsbury*	911
Centrica	11,000	Schroders	67
Cm Union	869	Scot & New.	415
Dixons	965	Scot Power	2,800
EMI	1,600	Svrn Trent	300
Energy Gp	2,500	Shell Trans	5,900
Enterpr Oil	2,700	Siebe	421
GKN	1,400	SmKl Bch	7,900
GRE	3,100	Smiths Inds	743
GUS	1,200	*Std Chartd*	6,000
Gen Acc	807	Sun Life	1,700
Gen Elec	6,300	TI Gp	413
Glaxo Well	4,700	Tesco	3,900
Granada	776	Thames W	1,100
Grand Met	2,900	Tomkins	10,100
Guinness	2,600	*Unilever*	5,000
HSBC	5,700	Utd Utilities	992
Halifax	2,300	Utd News	1,500
Hays	879	*Vodafone*	5,800
ICI	2,000	Whitbread	1,300
Kingfisher	1,100	Williams	1,300
LASMO	2,100	Wolseley	291
Ladbroke	3,600	Woolwich	5,900
Land Secs	2,700	Zeneca	2,400

هكذا من الإهمال

ANATOLE KALETSKY

After a wobble, shares face a longish but not steep decline

Widespread fears of another October crash are misplaced

All bull markets are alike, but every bear market is bearish in a different way — if Tolstoy had been a Wall Street broker those lines might have begun his great work, *A Knack for Earnin'*. Since Sunday marks the tenth anniversary of Black Monday and the media are (as usual) full of Jeremiads predicting another *Wall Street crash, it seems* appropriate to reflect on the wise words that he never wrote.

There are plenty of good reasons for believing that shares are now too expensive and that stock markets are riding for a fall. *Some of these* reasons were discussed in this column on July 18, when I abandoned the longstanding bullish view I had held about *Wall Street since 1995*. The reasons for turning bearish have multiplied. Perennially bearish institutional investors in Britain and Europe are capitulating and pouring money into Wall Street. Bull-market euphoria is evident in the record-breaking bid for *MCI financed by nothing* but corporate paper. Investors are accepting ludicrous valuations for supposedly high-tech companies such as WorldCom, Yahoo and Dell Computer, which have few real assets and no proprietary technology or market power.

The reasons for turning bearish do not, however, include the alleged similarities between today's conditions and those of 1987, still less of 1929 or 1989 in Tokyo. The resemblance between the Wall Street bull markets of 1926-27, 1984-87 and 1994-97 is uncanny, as illustrated in the top chart. *But just because both of* the other bull markets culminated in a 30 per cent crash, compressed into a few days in October, does not mean that something similar is likely in the coming weeks. If anything, *the widespread fear of an* October crash implies that prices could rise once the crash fails to materialise.

The question that matters, though, is *not* whether there will be a one-day crash like Black Monday or Black Tuesday in 1929, but whether the direction of the markets in the year ahead is likely to be down or up. And if a decline finally happens, will it be a 50 per cent-plus catastrophe (like *1929 and 1974* on Wall Street or Tokyo in 1990)? Will it be a less cataclysmic, but still traumatic, 30 per cent (like 1987)? Or will it be just a moderate *correction of 20 per cent* or so (like 1990)? My guess, for what it is worth, is that shares will wobble for a few months more, as they have since conditions turned broadly bearish in mid-summer. They may *even hit new peaks in a* pre-Christmas rally. By next year, however, the markets are likely to beat a ragged retreat, ending up some 20 to 25 per cent below their present levels.

The reasons why shares today are *vulnerable* are familiar enough. Prices are unusually high in relation to company profits, gross domestic product and most other *fundamental* measures of intrinsic worth. Although many professional analysts, especially in London, believed this to be true three years ago and thereby missed the entire bull market, the arguments that were *wrong in 1995* are probably valid now. High valuations could be sustained, and indeed increased, while long-term interest rates kept falling and profits kept growing rapidly. But bond yields are now *at rock-bottom levels and profits* cannot grow forever at compound rates of 15 per cent, or even 10 per cent.

At some point, the share of profits in national income must stop rising and at that point share valuations that extrapolate 10 to 15 per cent profit growth to infinity are bound to fall. The longstanding bears were also wrong in 1995 to judge the market's valuations against benchmarks of the crisis-ridden 1970s and 1980s. Today, however, valuations are quite expensive even in relation to their levels in the 1960s.

Against this background, it now seems prudent to accept the bearish conventional wisdom that I had opposed in previous years. But where the conventional wisdom still seems too gloomy is on the *severity of any decline*. Another crash like 1987, never mind 1929, still seems improbable.

The main reason for dismissing the horrors that spice up many market commentaries is *that fundamental conditions* in the American and global economies should remain benign for years to come. Global trade should continue to be *liberalised. Inflation should* remain under control. Technology and productivity should continue to advance, though not, of course, at the breathtaking pace of the 1950s and 1960s. Politicians and *central bankers should continue* to rediscover their responsibility for maintaining full employment by managing demand. Under these circumstances, serious recessions are as unlikely as they were in the 1950s and 1960s.

While these favourable fundamentals will not preclude significant cyclical fluctuations in interest rates, profits and equity prices, they should continue to favour economic growth, investment and the accumulation of profits in the long term. *It seems reasonable to expect*, therefore, that share prices in the years ahead will fluctuate around the relatively high valuations they enjoyed in the 1960s. Judged by these benchmarks, rather than the unsustainable bargain-basement prices of the 1970s and 1980s, Wall Street is only moderately overvalued today. A 20 to 25 per cent fall from current levels would probably be enough for the market to form a new base, *ready for the next* cyclical advance.

This issue of valuations makes the abruptness — and the brevity — of the 1987 crash easier to understand. By the mid-1980s many investors thought *they could discern* the end of the post-1974 depression. They began to anticipate a return to the 1960s golden age of low inflation, full employment and rapid growth. But when the market got ahead of itself, as it invariably does, the first reaction was to question the "new paradigm" and to fear that crisis conditions and cheap valuations of *1974-82 were about to return*. It did not take long for investors to realise, however, that there had been a fundamental improvement in the US and world economies. Fears about a return to the 1970s were *misplaced. This was the reason* markets began a sustained recovery within three months of Black Monday.

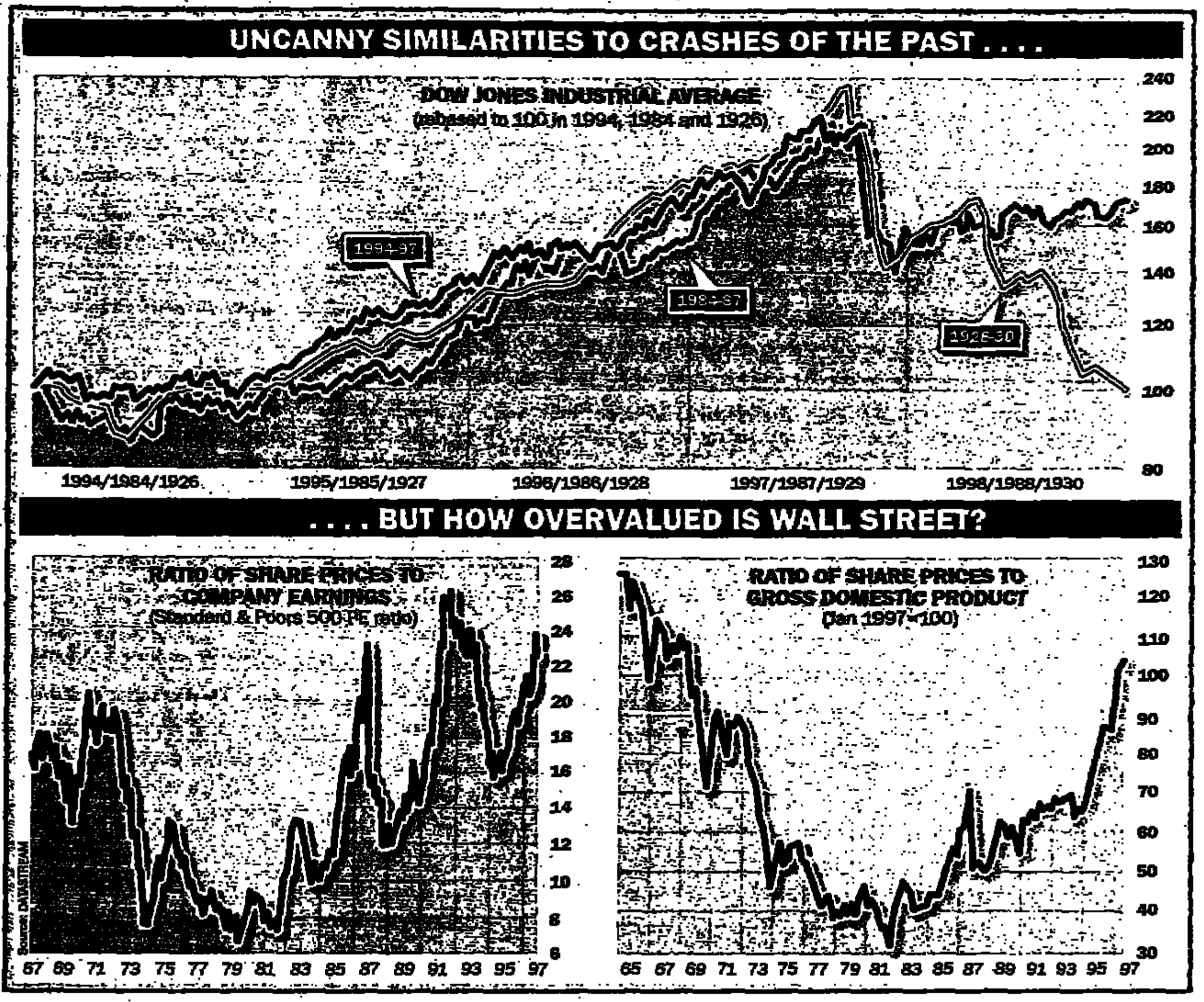
What the experience of 1987 *proved in retrospect* was that a market crash can only do permanent damage if it correctly anticipates a deep-seated structural dislocation. After 1929 came the great depression. After 1974 came 15 years *of inflation and mass unemployment*. After 1990 in Tokyo came the end of Japan's economic miracle, based on perfecting American technology and managerial methods. After the present market crises in southeast Asia, a disintegration of the "Confucian model" of authoritarian capitalism may be on the cards.

The next bear market in America and Europe, by contrast, is likely to be triggered *by cyclical rather than by* structural problems — most probably a decline in profit growth, accompanied by a modest upturn in interest rates and inflation. But once such a cyclical decline does start, won't it *inevitably* turn to panic, as it did in 1987?

I think not. As share prices retreat in the face of *unfavourable cyclical* influences, long-term investors will be encouraged to snap up shares by the favourable fundamentals of expanding world trade, advancing technology, stable *prices, co-operative labour* relations and managed demand. In 1987, before the end of the Cold War and only a few years after the crises of 1973-83, a stable world economy seemed a pipedream.

Now America has actually experienced this "new paradigm" (more precisely, it has rediscovered and revised the old 1960s paradigm, as I argued on *September 12*.) Accordingly, investors should be *more* confident about buying shares before they collapse to the undervalued levels of late 1987.

There could, of course, be a *1987-style crash if* prices surged by another 15 or 20 per cent in coming months. But in the absence of such a final outbreak of bullish hysteria, there is *unlikely* to be a "crash of 1997" — or of 1998. More probable is a longish, but *not* very steep, decline. Instead of falling into a pit of panic, share prices would slide down a slope of hope.



UNCANNY SIMILARITIES TO CRASHES OF THE PAST ....

.... BUT HOW OVERVALUED IS WALL STREET?

City lets home-grown success story fall to the Americans

Carl Mortished reports on how the head of Federal-Mogul managed to put T&N, the automotive engineer, in the BHAG

On yet another day of multibillion-dollar bids, the City was *given an inside glimpse into* American corporate culture in the form of Dick Snell's "BHAG", or Big Hairy Audacious Goal.

The genial chairman and CEO of Federal-Mogul turned up in London yesterday with a £1.5 billion bridging loan from Chase Manhattan bank, enough to snap up T&N, one of Britain's leading automotive engineers. Mr Snell's ambition is disarmingly simple: the big hairy goal is to create a $10 billion company in five years; T&N is just a step along the road.

Posters at Federal-Mogul's Michigan HQ ensure that the BHAG is welded into the *mind of every employee*. Whether T&N's British employees respond to the American football team spirit remains to be seen, but one *thing is clear: the City has let* down a home-grown success story, handing it over to US investors who are less chary of a bit of business risk.

Sir Colin Hope, T&N's chairman, could tell his *American partners a few* things about big hairy audacious gambles. In the early Eighties, T&N was all but bust, a ragbag of businesses from building materials to auto parts, ready to implode *because of mushrooming* asbestos injury claims.

Sir Colin took on a company worth £70 million with about £400 million in sales and set about turning it into a leading automotive parts *supplier. He sold businesses* in Africa and India, built up Ferodo, the brakes business and launched a bid for AE, the engineering group. T&N won the fight on the second attempt after successfully challenging secret indemnities given to support the AE share price and beating off Hollis, a company backed by Robert Maxwell.

T&N's motor business grew and today has leading positions in pistons, friction products, sealants and bearings. It has become a key player in a world where carmakers are seeking *consolidation of suppliers*. According to Mr Snell: "You must have engineering, design, development and testing *in the same time zones* and the same languages of your customers and then you must be able to manufacture around the world."

For several years, *Sir Colin's strategy* has been getting that breadth of coverage through acquisitions, recently in the tireless pursuit of *Kolbenschmidt, the German* piston maker in which T&N has options over a large amount of its shares. Yet, the City worried about T&N's gearing and the drain on its cashflow from asbestos litigation. *Sir Colin sums up it:* "The City got it wrong and Dick Snell got it right."

> ❛The City got it wrong and Dick Snell got it right❜
>
> — SIR COLIN HOPE

The deterrent for investors *has been asbestos, a liability* the company never sought to evade. Doggedly, T&N's management soldiered on, running a tight ship that generated the cash to pay more than £500 million to asbestosis sufferers, finally putting in place an insurance policy that caps the company's exposure.

Such conscientious determination won T&N few fans in the City, where investors treated the shares like poison, preferring the shorter-term thrills and spills *in banking and pharmaceuticals*. As a result, Sir Colin was left with little ammunition when T&N and Federal-Mogul flirted with a merger *last year*.

Robert Speed, analyst at Henderson Crosthwaite puts it bluntly: "It is a horrendous indictment of UK investor *mentality*. If they had merged the two companies, T&N would have taken 60 per cent of the group, but T&N stock was undervalued and Federal-Mogul was roaring ahead."

Sir Colin is clearly saddened by the outcome although he is firm in backing Mr Snell. "I don't deny that a lot of it was management's fault, but something is very wrong when institutions say *to me: 'Isn't it a shame you* could not have carried on for two years'."

Pointing to Federal-Mogul's £1.5 billion bridging loan, *he said: "It's ridiculous* that they could produce the *finance in America* and we couldn't do it in London."

Yesterday, Mr Snell was full of praise for T&N's management, making jokes about *Sir Colin's* negotiating skills — "When I'm next to him I have to watch my wallet." Mr Snell knows he is getting a quality product at a bargain price, but whether the City recognises it is *doubtful. It would be nice if* hundreds of thousands of British pensioners wrote to those who invest our money to ask why they failed to back T&N. But they remain invisible and the depressing *money-go-round continues.*

BUSINESS LETTERS

Invoices can help timely payment

From Mr Lance Allen

Sir, The debate continues over late payment of invoices (*"Large firms* worst for delaying payments", October 3). Whilst habitual protagonists should be encouraged to mend their ways, a degree of self-help by the suppliers of the goods and services may help.

Vague and unspecific invoices will inevitably receive a delayed or overdue response. By way of illustration: small printer sends invoice to large corporation, *marked* "goods supplied". Finance team logs invoice, forwards to stationery supervisor. He has no knowledge of order, sends to marketing. Not marketing's order, so invoice to finance, who now phone the printer. *Source* of order identified: it's projects. Invoice to projects for sanction, back to finance for, at last, payment.

Invoice suppliers can give themselves an improved *chance of prompt payment* by always describing the goods, and naming the ordering contact. Common sense surely.

Yours faithfully,
LANCE ALLEN,
33 Hazelhurst Crescent,
Findon Valley,
Worthing, West Sussex.

Wrong penalties

From Mr Robert Breckman

Sir, The recent fines by the Personal Investment Authority, eg, the *£450,000* on Friends Provident, are without substance. The payment of these amounts only comes out of policy and shareholders' funds. It is the individuals who should be penalised and *banned from being involved* with the pensions industry and the companies involved should be likewise banned from selling pension policies *for a period* of say, one year.

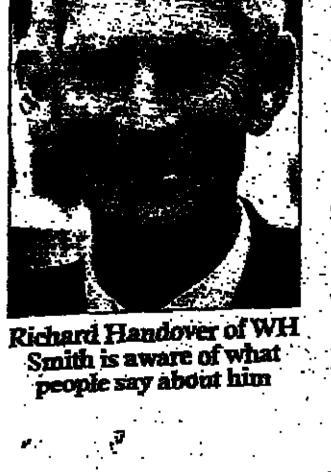
Yours faithfully,
ROBERT BRECKMAN,
49 South Molton Street, W1.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Smugs views

TIM WATERSTONE'S stalking of WH Smith has brought out an epidemic of self-doubt among the senior management — and not only about the so-called *strategy of the retailer*. Richard Handover, the "new" chief executive (after 32 years at Smugs), was concerned about how people view him. "I know what people say about me," Handover, who looks at least two decades older than his 51 years, told a City audience yesterday. "I know they say I'm a decrepit old fart from inside the company." Before anyone had a chance to nod, he added: "But I'm not."

However, he does not appear to have convinced Beverley Hodson, the managing director of WH Smith, and a relative new girl at Smugs. She referred to her new boss as "wrinkly" and went on to say of herself: "I know I *don't* have Mr Waterstone's charismatic whatever-it-is." Eloquence, perhaps? Style? Ideas? Or ability to sell books?



Richard Handover of WH Smith is aware of what people say about him

● *AND they said he would never finish the race. Gerry Acher, the head of auditing at KPMG, arrived in northern Italy yesterday on the last stage of the Peking to Paris rally, which he is tackling in a 1932 baby Aston Martin. He is due in Paris tomorrow, but is reporting strange noises coming from the engine. "We intend to make it to Paris even if we have to push the car," he e-mailed the office. That would be a sight.*

Up in smoke

THE appearance of cuddly Ken Clarke as deputy chairman of British American Tobacco squares an interesting circle. When he was Home Secretary, Ken needed somebody to review police pay. So he turned to Sir Patrick Sheehy, who was then chairman of BAT Industries. Unfortunately, by the time the chain-smoking cigarette maker could deliver his report, Ken had moved on to become Chancellor and the new Home Secretary, Michael Howard, largely ignored Sir Patrick's recommendations.

● *AFTER the troubles at Ferguson International, it is time to institute a Denis Cassidy index. The hyperactive former British Home Stores director — who went on to run Boddingtons, the cream of Manchester — has had a wonderful track record recently. Liberty, the department store group that is his main company, has lost a third of its value in the past 16 months. He also runs Oliver Group, the shoe sellers — which has lost two thirds of its value in three years — and presided over the magnificent flotation of Kingsbury Group, the furniture flogger, seeing the shares fall from 321p to 119p this year before Lord Harris of Peckham's H&C put it out of its misery. Bad news for the Toon Army as well — he is a director of Newcastle United.*

Hatchet man

I AM sad I missed Tuesday's Hill Samuel reunion, which the former merchant bank's former boss Christopher Castleman hosted at his offices at Standard Chartered bank. A star-studded cast from the City included corporate financiers from BZW (clutching *ominous brown envelopes*), NatWest Markets (ditto) and Close Brothers, as well as Richard Ramsay, now finance director of Aberdeen football club. The biggest surprise was the appearance of Christopher Roshier and Trevor Swete, the top financiers fired by Castleman *over a row about* taking staff to BZW. But I am not sure all hatchets have been buried. There was no sign of David Davies, who presided over Hill Samuel's sale to TSB ten years ago.

Beach call

TALKING of the TSB, Lloyds TSB is still flogging off its spare branches at a pace. Healey & Baker, the surveyors, auctioned 92 of them this week, raking in more than £24 million for the clearing bank's coffers. Healey is getting quite sophisticated in the way it handles the bidding these days, so you can bid by phone, *rather like being at Sotheby's*. One bidder picked up a couple of branches in the Midlands, while relaxing on a sun lounger on a beach in Tenerife.

JASON NISSÉ

PRESTON

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هكذا من الأمل

Micropal directors accept American approach

By Gavin Lumsden

The McGraw-Hill Companies, the American information services provider that owns Standard & Poor's, the equity and bond ratings agency, said yesterday that it was acquiring Micropal, the leading UK data provider on unit trusts.

It also announced that it would be launching a comprehensive Internet service for US and UK investors in the near future.

McGraw-Hill would not disclose how much it was paying for Micropal, which had a turnover of £13.5 million last year.

However, Micropal directors, including Chris Poll, the founder-chairman who owns nearly half of the company's shares, have agreed to the transaction.

McGraw-Hill said that the acquisition would build on its leading position in financial services and global publishing.

Micropal, which measures the performance of 38,000 investment funds in the UK, Europe and Asia, will become part of S&P, which is expanding its fund-rating business beyond the US.

Last February it bought Fund Research, another UK unit trust research company.

Jack Zwingli, group vice-president at S&P, said that the company had used Micropal data for five years and now planned to develop more products for American consumers, brokers and institutional investors.

Next month it will launch Personal Wealth, an Internet-based service offering investors information and advice on finance and portfolio management, in the US. Subscribers will be charged a monthly fee. S&P hopes to launch the service in the UK next year.

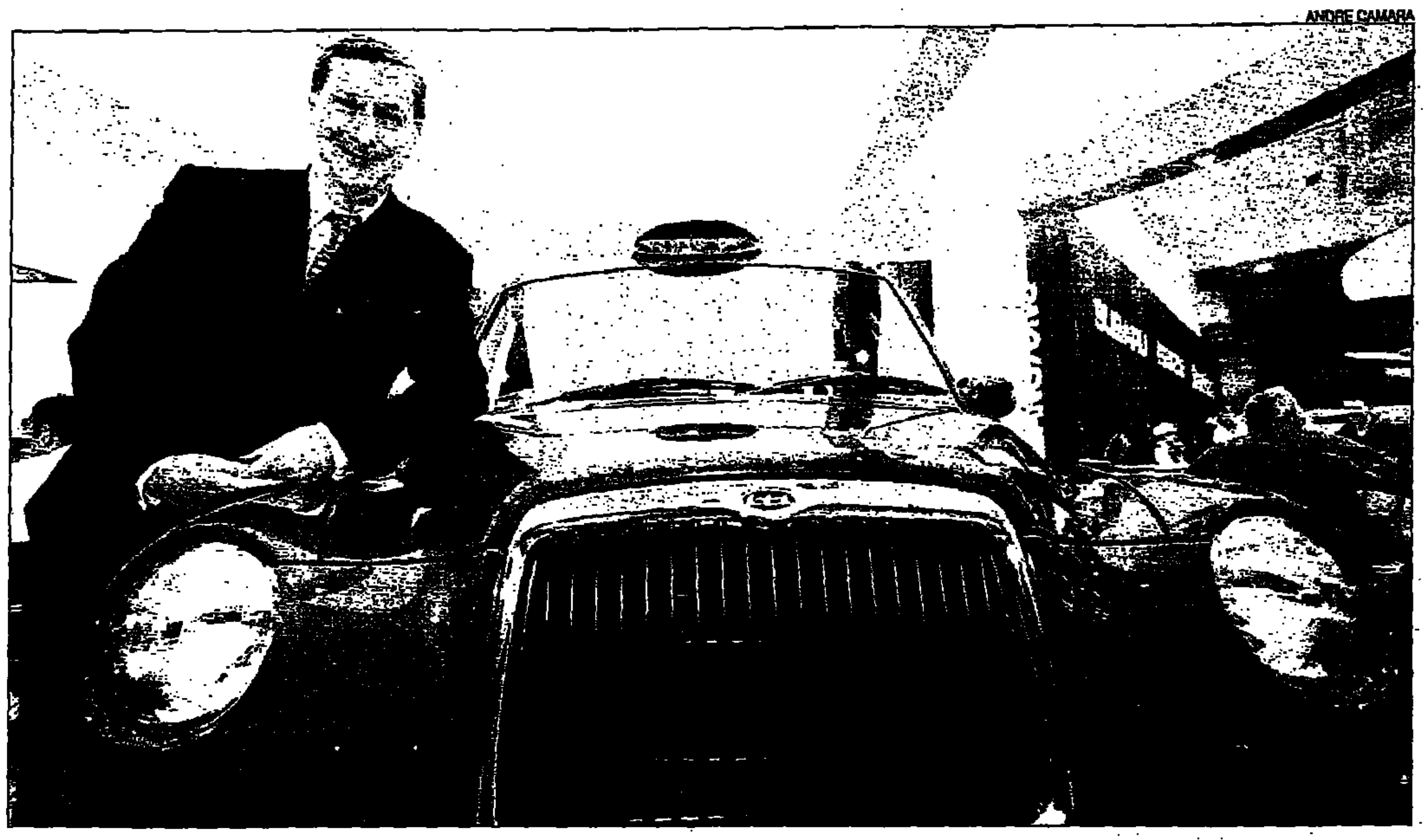
Mr Poll, who is leaving Micropal, said that the time was right to create a global service provider for the fund management industry.

He added: "The privatisation of pensions provision means you've got to get a global strategy. Over the coming years the fund management business will stop being the poor relation of the financial services industry and will become the essential conduit by which capital is moved."

Mr Poll is setting up a consultancy specialising in the Greater China region and will continue to advise the company, which will be renamed Standard & Poor's Micropal.

Mark Adorian will continue handling the day-to-day management and will report to Mr Zwingli.

ANDRE CAMARA



Jamie Borwick, chief executive of Manganeze Bronze Holdings, makers of London's black cabs, which are now destined for Paris and Frankfurt. The company dominates the UK market and is to supply a left-hand-drive taxi. Mr Borwick said: "We could have exported them before but it was the devil's own job to convert the old models to left-hand drive. With the new version this will be much easier. We should be exporting about a third of the production line in a few years." Pre-tax profits rose to £8.31 million (£6.2 million) in the year to July 31. The dividend rises to 9.5p (7p) with a final 6p.

BTR strengthens engineering core with Exide Electronics

By Martin Barrow

BTR, which embarked on a £3 billion disposal programme last month, yesterday moved to strengthen its core engineering business with the £361 million purchase of America's Exide Electronics.

Exide, a provider of power supply systems, will merge with BTR Control Systems to form a global business at the heart of the reshaped BTR, with annual sales of about £1.5 billion and almost 18,000 employees.

BTR is offering $29 for each Exide share, which trade on America's Nasdaq exchange. This compares with a hostile $20 offer launched by Danaher Corp, another American company, in July and which forced the Exide board to explore alternative strategic options for their business. BTR has secured a recommendation from the Exide board and from investors who speak for 19.9 per cent of the shares. The Danaher offer was due to expire at midnight yesterday.

Ian Strachan, chief executive of BTR, said the acquisition represented "a major step forward in our strategy to focus on our higher growth engineering businesses where we enjoy leadership positions.

"It gives our control systems group a global position in the power electronics industry and provides us with the ability to supply our customers with integrated systems solutions, for which there is increasing demand."

Exide, which is unrelated to Exide Corporation, a manufacturer of batteries, earned pre-tax profits of $50.9 million (£31.3 million) on sales of $562.0 million in the 12 months to the end of June, achieving margins of 7.8 per cent.

The company is based in Raleigh, North Carolina, with manufacturing facilities in America, Finland and Mexico. In addition to uninterruptible power supplies the company makes related software, and equipment and services for computer, communications and industrial applications.

BTR's tender offer for the equity is worth $352 million. In addition, BTR is assuming $233 million of debt. BTR shares were little changed at 235p yesterday, down 1½p.

The shares, which had severely underperformed the stock market over the past three years, have recovered some lost ground since August, coinciding with the appointment of Bob Bauman as chairman and the subsequent announcement by Mr Strachan of a strategic refocusing of the group. BTR is seeking buyers for its huge packaging, polymers and building products business.

Drug firms count the cost of EMU

By Paul Durman

EUROPEAN Monetary Union will cost pharmaceutical companies hundreds of millions of pounds in lost profits because it will hasten the cross-border harmonisation of drug prices, it is claimed.

David Brewer, a senior consultant at the life sciences arm of Cap Gemini, the computer services consultancy, said that the introduction of a single currency would make price differences more visible to government agencies and consumer groups. At the same time, he said, a single currency would further encourage wholesalers to exploit price differentials through parallel importing.

Mr Brewer said that the absence of currency risk will allow wholesalers to take advantage of smaller price discrepancies. Cap Gemini believes that together these two forces will create powerful pressure to bring drug prices into line. Mr Brewer said harmonisation at lower price levels will cost individual companies hundreds of millions every year.

Drug pricing varies widely across Europe, with some products costing only a third as much in Spain as they do elsewhere. Mr Brewer suggested that harmonisation would only take place over several years because national agencies are likely to fight to retain control of drug pricing, and to protect jobs in their pharmaceutical industries.

A survey of 111 pharmaceutical companies conducted by Datamonitor on behalf of Cap Gemini suggests that the industry expects to spend about £850 million preparing for EMU in the next five years.

Microsoft chasing $1bn cable television stake

From Oliver August in New York

MICROSOFT, the US software group, is considering a $1 billion (£600 million) investment in one of America's largest cable television companies. Bill Gates, the Microsoft executive chairman, is seeking control of the cable sector after deciding that cable, and not telephony, holds the key to the delivery of electronic communications.

Microsoft executives are negotiating a deal with Tele-Communications Inc (TCI) under which Microsoft would provide cash for the installation of the boxes that would give cable subscribers easy access to the Internet and digital cable channels.

Viewers will for the first time be able to use cable television interactively as a result of the new technology.

Gates: communications key

Eventually, consumers are expected to route all their communications, including telephone conversations, through the cable network.

Mr Gates's efforts are aimed at making Microsoft software the standard on the cable network in the same way that the group already dominates the personal computer market. In an extreme case, rival cable software could become a threat to Microsoft's Windows operating system, the group believes.

Microsoft executives have said that "penetrating the living room" will be vital for the long-term future. The unconfirmed investment plans at TCI are worth between $500 million and $1 billion, funded from cash resources.

TCI is among several cable companies that formed a consortium to standardise cable boxes so that they can be used by cable providers nationwide. But TCI's existing technology is believed to be inferior to that of its direct competitors. Microsoft is also trying to persuade Time Warner, America's second-biggest cable operator, to endorese its software.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

THE ROYAL SCHOOL
Application for an order under Section 78 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT:

(1) An application has been made by the Governors of The Royal School to the Secretary of State for Education and Employment for an Order modifying the Royal School Scheme so as to allow for the admission of boys (in addition to girls) as Nursery pupils at The Grove Nursery, The Grove School, Hindhead, Surrey, the preparatory element of the Royal School.

(2) The draft of the Order of the Trust Deeds may be inspected at the office of the Bursar, The Royal School, Farnham Lane, Haslemere, Surrey, by prior appointment.

(3) Any representations concerning this application must be made to the Secretary of State within one month of the date of publication of this notice by writing to Legal Branch, Department for Education and Employment, Caxton House, 6-12 Tothill Street, London SW1H 9NF.

Dated this 16th October 1997.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF s98 MEETING OF CREDITORS
RUISLIP MOTORS LIMITED
Principal Trading Address:
726 Field End Road, South Ruislip Middlesex, HA4 0QW.
Company Number 509234

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at 2nd Floor, Columbia Centre, Market Street, Bracknell, Berks RG12 1PA on 23 October 1997 at 10.30 for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the Insolvency Act 1986.

A list of names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at Deloitte & Touche of Columbia Centre, Market Street, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1PA during the two business days preceding the above meeting.

Dated: 10 October 1997
By Order of the Board
D R Taylor

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
GANDALF DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 01806303
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the unsecured creditors of Gandalf Digital Communications Limited will be held at 11.00 am on Friday 31 October 1997 at the Fairclough Suite, Holiday Inn, Crowne Plaza, Peter Street, Manchester M60 2DS.

The purpose of this meeting is to receive the report prepared by the administrative receivers and, if the creditors think fit, appoint a creditors' committee.

Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company to S A Pearson at Price Waterhouse, York House, York Street, Manchester, M2 4WS, no later than twelve noon on Thursday 30 October 1997 together with any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf at the meeting. Any claims duly lodged will be admitted to vote subject to the provisions of Rule 3.11 of the Insolvency Rules 1986.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.

Creditors should note that the meeting is not being held for the purpose of appointing a liquidator to the company.

Dated this seventh of October 1997.
S A Pearson
Joint Administrative Receiver

IN THE MATTER OF DAVID ARTHUR BUFFONI
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Trustee of the above-named bankrupt intends within four months from 11 November 1997 to declare a final dividend to the Creditors of the said bankrupt and that each Creditor desiring to participate in such dividend must on or before that date send in his full name and address and full particulars of his debt or claim to the undersigned David J Dawson of BDO Stoy Hayward, Kempton House, 12 Lower Brook Street, Ipswich, IP4 1AT, the trustee of the said bankrupt.

Dated the 14th day of October 1997.
D J Dawson, Trustee.

SYMBOL LIS LIMITED
Company Number 2814381
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to section 175 Companies Act 1985 that:

1. the above-named Company has approved a payment out of capital for the purpose of purchasing its own shares;

2. the amount of the permissible capital payment for the shares in question is £541,000 and the resolution approving such payment out of capital was passed on 13th October 1997;

3. The statutory declaration of the Directors and the Auditors' Reports required by sections 173 and 174 Companies Act 1985 are available for inspection at the Company's office at Knaves House, Knaves Beech Business Centre, Loudwater, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP10 9QR.

4. Any creditor of the Company may at any time within the five weeks immediately following 13 October 1997 apply to the court under sections 176 and 177 Companies Act for an order prohibiting the payment.

S Withers Green
Director
For and on behalf of Symbol LIS Limited.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF JOINT LIQUIDATORS AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO CLAIM
RUISLIP MOTORS LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)
Principal Trading Address:
726 Field End Road, South Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 0QW.
Company Number 509234.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 10 October 1997 Kenneth Stephen Chalk and Stephen John Akers were appointed joint liquidators of the above named company (creditors' voluntary winding up).

Creditors of the company who have not already done so should submit their claims in writing to me at the following address under reference: SLH/YEL/JCD

Kenneth Stephen Chalk
Deloitte & Touche
Columbia Centre
Market Street
Bracknell, Berkshire
RG12 1PA

EC COUNCIL REGULATION 2137/1985
UK STATUTORY INSTRUMENT 638/1989
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
LANGCRED EEIG
(IN LIQUIDATION)
GROUPING NUMBER GE 77

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: On 1 October 1997 the above Grouping was placed into Voluntary Liquidation by a resolution of its Members and Phillip Rodney Sykes of Arthur Andersen, 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT, was appointed Liquidator by the Members.

The Liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the Grouping must send details, in writing, of any claim against the Grouping to Phillip Rodney Sykes of Arthur Andersen, PO Box 65, 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT by 10 December 1997

The Liquidator also gives notice under the provision of Rule 4.182A(6) that on 10 January 1997 he intends to make a final return to creditors who have submitted claims by 10 December 1997 and that there will be no further distribution to creditors. The final return to creditors will be made without regard to the claim of any person in respect of a debt not already proved.

The Grouping is able to pay all of its known creditors in full
Date: 10 October 1997
P R Sykes, Liquidator.

IN THE MATTER OF RAYMOND GEORGE and MARGARET HOWE
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT, 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Trustee of the above-named bankrupts intends within four months from 11 November 1997 to declare a interim dividend to the Creditors of the said bankrupts and that any such Creditor desiring to participate in such dividend must on or before that date send in his full name and address and full particulars of his debt or claim to the undersigned David J Dawson of BDO Stoy Hayward, Kempton House, 12 Lower Brook Street, Ipswich, IP4 1AT, the trustee of the said bankrupts.

Dated the 14th day of October 1997.
David J Dawson, Trustee.

The Insolvency Act 1986
S JAEGER & SON (IMPORT) LIMITED
(In Liquidation)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I, Peter Lomas of Poppleton & Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester M4 1QD was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company by Members and Creditors on 29th September 1997.

Dated 14th October 1997
PETER LOMAS, Liquidator

NORTH AMERICAN INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LTD
(IN LIQUIDATION)
(A company incorporated in the Turks & Caicos Islands)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The Official Liquidators of North American Investment and Finance Company Ltd. ("the Liquidators") appointed by the Turks & Caicos Supreme Court are requesting creditors to advise the Liquidators in writing of the details of their claims against North American Investment and Finance Company Ltd. by December 1, 1997 at the address below:

Official Liquidators
North American Investment
and Finance Company Ltd.
P.O. Box 1389
George Town, Grand Cayman
Cayman Islands

Golden parachute of $55m for Araskog

From Oliver August in New York

RAND ARASKOG, chairman of ITT Corp, the leisure group, will receive a golden parachute worth $55 million (£33 million) if he loses in the $11.5 billion takeover battle with Hilton Hotels.

Mr Araskog, who has been chairman for 18 years, is fighting to keep ITT independent. Hilton is offering $70 per share.

If the group is sold for more than $71 per share Mr Araskog will receive $17 million in severance pay, while anything below $71 will yield $14 million.

He also stands to receive a $26.5 million pension payout, $5 million from another retirement plan, a $5 million life insurance policy, $1.7 million from a savings plan plus an annual annuity of $120,000.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Gleeson build-up boosts share price

SHARES in MJ Gleeson, the building and construction group, rose from £10.22½ to £10.52½ after it reported an increase in pre-tax profits from £8.85 million to £10.5 million for the year to July 30. Sales rose to £205.8 million, from £198.4 million. Earnings improved from 57.45p to 66.48p, out of which the total dividend rises from 16.06p to 18.20p after a rise in the final dividend of 15 per cent to 14.17p.

The company said that demand in the contracting sector was continuing to rise in most parts of Britain and the construction divisions had a more substantial order book than for some time.

Cirqual buys BWMP

CIRQUAL, the engineering group, is to acquire BWMP, a printed circuit board maker, for £36.4 million. Cirqual also announced a 184 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £6.73 million in the year to August 31, on sales up 72 per cent to £31.95 million. Earnings per share rose 58 per cent to 19.05p, out of which the total dividend goes up 59 per cent to 9.52p. Tony Gartland, chairman, said: "The group's existing businesses are continuing to experience high activity levels, leading the directors to view the year ahead with enthusiasm and optimism."

'Largest' cruise ship

ROYAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL, the shipping line, is to build what it believes is the world's largest cruise ship, which will have twice the tonnage of the *QE2*. It will set sail with a floating ice rink, a rock climbing wall, a roller-blading track and a television studio. It will enter service in autumn 1999, will hold 3,840 passengers and will be built in Turku, Finland. The new ship has yet to be named. Royal Caribbean operates two brands, Royal Caribbean International and Celebrity Cruises.

Jobs consultancy placing

NORTHERN RECRUITMENT, the North East of England and Yorkshire recruitment consultancy, plans to raise £1.35 million through a placing of shares. In the year to June it increased pre-tax profit from £1.013 million to £1.72 million on turnover up 42 per cent at £10.4 million from £7.33 million. Like-for-like sales in the first quarter were up by 31 per cent. Lorna Moran, chief executive, said the proceeds of the placing will help with two new offices in Edinburgh and Glasgow, which are expected to open in spring 1998.

Winterthur go-ahead

THE European Commission has cleared the merger between Credit Suisse Group and Winterthur Insurance Group. It said the merger would create the leading group in Switzerland in retail financial services and non-life insurance, and the second in life insurance. However the Commission said: "The merger will nonetheless not produce notable market share additions in banking and insurance product markets inside the European Union." The merged group will be among the five largest financial groups in Europe.

Ultraframe £136m float

ULTRAFRAME, the designer and manufacturer of conservatory roofs, said it is planning a stock market flotation via a placing of shares at 147p a share, valuing the group at £136.4 million, a multiple of 15.8 times estimated earnings before exceptional costs per share for the year to September 26. Estimated earnings per share for the year are 9.3p, with the notional dividend at 3.5p a share. Estimated pre-tax profit for the period will be "not less" than £11.03 million. Dealing in Ultraframe shares is expected to begin on October 23.

IAWS payout rises 10%

IAWS GROUP, the Irish food and agricultural products group, achieved an increase in pre-tax profits to Ir£25.3 million (£23 million) from Ir£18.5 million in the year to July 31. Earnings rose to Ir13.7p a share from Ir11.8p. There is a final dividend of Ir1.68p a share, lifting the total by 10 per cent to Ir3.2p. The company said capital expenditure and acquisitions totalled Ir£34 million during the year. Free cash flow remained strong at Ir£21 million and year-end borrowings were Ir£22 million, with gearing of 30 per cent.

THE TIMES

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CHANGING TIMES

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Merrill Lynch on the electronic order book. And why next Monday should hold no fear.

Order-driven electronic trading comes to the London Stock Exchange on Monday. Today, Merrill Lynch has a simple message for clients planning to spend the weekend worrying about it: don't. Institutional Fund Managers recently voted us No.1 in the UK for sales, *sales trading and market making,* and our client focus* will be as sharp as ever when the new system starts. We are fully committed to making electronic trading work for all our clients. We are also fully prepared to continue providing liquidity to our clients. As everyone in London gets to grips with a different way of trading, commitment like this will make a deal of difference.

The difference is Merrill Lynch.

*The Extel Ranking of Investment Analysts Survey, July 1997.

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Gains in thin trading

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
524½	407½	Allied Domecq	521½	- 1	5.2	15.6
626	385	Bulmer (HP)	481½	+ 9	3.8	13.4
75½	40¼	Burn Stewart	53¼	+ ½	8.2	
1040	865	Glenmorangie A	962½	...	1.7	21.8
631	425½	Grand Met	627½	+ 2½	3.0	20.2
630½	424	Guinness	630	+ 5	3.1	17.3
380	280	Highland Dist	287½	+ 7½	3.8	13.4
336	213	Matthew Clark	257½	.	11.7	7.7
109½	52½	Minmet W	53		6.6	14.6
2009¼	1462¼	SA Breweries	1781¼	+ 3¼	2.1	

BANKS

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MEDIA

MINING

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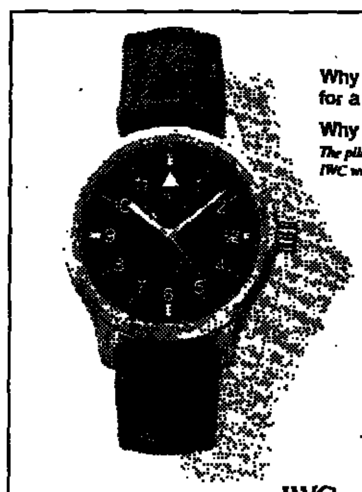

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THE TIMES

Portfolio

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No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Vardy (Reg)	Distrib'rs	
2	*Taylor Wrw*	*Bld & Con*	
3	Imperial Tob	Div Inds	
4	BBA	Engin'ing	
5	Enterprise	Breweries	
6	Racal Elect	Electronic	
7	Rio Tinto	Mining	
8	McLeod Rus	Div Inds	
9	SFI	Breweries	
10	Gencor	Mining	
11	*Smith David*	*Print Pap*	
12	Derwent	Property	
13	*New Ldn Cap*	*Insurance*	
14	EFM	Oth Fin	
15	Orange	Telecomms	
16	Vickers	Engin'ing	
17	Intereurope	Media	
18	Powell Dffryn	Div Inds	
19	Holliday Ch	Chemicals	
20	Monument	Oil & Gas	
21	Safeway	Ret Food	
22	Savills	Property	
23	Northern	Leisure	
24	Norwich U	Insurance	
25	Flying Flw Uts	Ret Gen	
26	*Guinness*	*Alc Bev*	
27	Proteus Intl	Pharm'cals	
28	CMG	Sup Serv	
29	West Hlthcare	Healthcare	
30	Pace Micro	Electronic	
31	EMI	Media	
32	Redrow	Bld & Cons	
33	Wyndeham	Print Pap	
34	Whinney Mck	Property	
35	Hyder	Water	
36	Albright & Wil	Chemicals	
37	Old Eng Pub	Breweries	
38	Westbury	Bld & Cons	
39	*NFC*	*Transport*	
40	Seton Health	Healthcare	
41	*Br Land*	*Property*	
42	Nat West	Banks	
43	*Mirror Gp*	*Media*	
44	BNB Res	Sup Serv	

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Weekly accumulator total	

5 winners shared the prize yesterday, each receiving £400. D Munasinghe, Kent; I Hadfield, London; S Martin, Cornwall; J Williams, Wilts; J O'Keefe, Isle of Wight.

هكذا من الأصل

The Lord Mayor's scheme rewards the firms who employ their business know-how to improve inner-city life. **John Young** reports

Breathing fire into community projects

On his way to the top: a bricklaying trainee taking part in the Peckham Partnership gets advice on building skills on a John Laing site

It is easy to *dismiss* schemes such as the Lord Mayor's Dragon Awards as mere public relations exercises when you contrast the glittering towers and palaces of the City of London with the squalor and poverty that still afflict large parts of our inner cities.

In one sense that is what they are, but in the best sense. Corporate involvement in community initiatives to help disadvantaged members of society is not going to make any converts *among critics of* late 20th-century capitalism. By donating money and a few hours of its employees' time to a "worthy cause", Mammon plc will not *persuade the public* that it has a heart as well as a purse of gold.

But experience has shown that a helping hand from the rich and influential can achieve highly rewarding results at grassroots level. Every successful example of corporate involvement, however insignificant its cost in finance or man-hours, symbolises a breaking down of barriers; often the greatest benefits are to company employees *who gain experi*ence and satisfaction from new interest and commitment. New friendships are cemented and new alliances forged between the most unlikely seeming partners.

Twenty-nine entries were shortlisted for this year's *tenth* anniversary awards, sponsored by the Corporation of London in association with Carlton, and organised by Business in the Community. The judges were the Lord Mayor of London, Alderman Sir Roger Cork; Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England; Colin Stanbridge, Director of Carlton Broadcasting; *Lord Sheppard* of Didgemere, former chairman of Grand Metropolitan; Martyn Lewis, the BBC newsreader; and Debbie Scott, trust director of Tomorrow's People Trust.

The winners in each of the seven categories announced at the Lord Mayor's Banquet at Mansion House *last night are:*

● City firm: **Lloyd's of London.** Immediately adjoining the City of London and increasingly linked to it by the eastward expansion of commerce into the former docklands, the borough of Tower Hamlets *nonetheless* has one of the highest levels of social deprivation and one of the worst academic achievement records in the country. The paradox is partly explained by a heavy concentration of recent immigrants; 60 per cent of pupils regard English as their second language and more than half lack fluency in it.

The Lloyd's Community Programme was established in 1989 *to* focus on education, training and the encouragement of enterprise in Spitalfields, and was extended to include the whole borough. It provides core funding for the Tower Hamlets Education Business Partnership, with which it has established a highly successful reading project, in which large numbers of City workers take part.

In 1995 an appeal in the Lloyd's staff newspaper for volunteers to help pupils with reading produced an overwhelming response. Projects have been established in seven schools. Children's achievements are rewarded by excursions to places such as the Tower of London and Arsenal Football Club.

● Community Regeneration: **The NatWest Group.** During the past five years the group has committed more than £50 million in cash and kind to community ventures. These include the NatWest Group Charitable Trust, which since 1995 has awarded some £4 million to community groups across the country to help them to find their own solutions to unemployment and social exclusion.

The trust works with 30 main *partners in a project entitled* Young People and the Changing World of Work. The aim is to encourage youngsters to take advantage of new employment opportunities and to gain the skills, confidence and experience they need to lead independent lives. Successful examples include the provision of *loans and support for disadvan*taged black youths in Bristol to set up their own businesses, training people with learning difficulties to undertake voluntary social work at a community centre in north *London, and encouraging disaffect*ed youngsters on housing estates in Wales to become involved in community projects.

Grants average £50,000 a year for three years, with additional awards at regional level. Several hundred company volunteers assist with advice and in assessing and monitoring projects. Seminars are held regularly to enable those taking part to share their experiences.

● *Employee Community Involvement:* **BT Personal Communications Division.** Working with Business in the Community, BT has established what it describes as "the largest company-to-community mentoring scheme in the United Kingdom". More than merely advising, "mentoring" aims to encourage *young people to recognise* and define their interests and to use them to pursue educational and eventually career ambitions.

More than 200 BT employees took part in the scheme, entitled Roots and Wings, in the 1996-97 school year. In the current year the number has increased to 325 and *the number of* secondary schools taking part from eight to 13. Schools are selected on the basis of having higher than average social needs.

An independent assessment by the North West Consortium *for the* Study of Effectiveness in Urban Schools found that Roots and Wings *has* made a significant impact on pupils' self-confidence, attitude to school work, skills, aspirations and awareness of the world outside school.

● London Partnership Award: **John Laing plc and Grand Metropolitan.** The National Tenants Resource Centre, which was opened in Chester in December *1995 by the Prince of Wales, is the* first residential centre in Britain to provide training, resources and communications for social housing associations and tenants' organisations. Professionally organised courses are aimed at instilling tenants with the expertise and confidence needed to manage and negotiate more effectively.

Success story: Lloyd's staff help pupils to improve their reading

The centre is located in Trafford Hall, an 18th-century listed building which was purchased by Grand Metropolitan Estates and *made available, rent-free, for ten* years, after which it should become self-financing. The building needed extensive repairs and refurbishment, for which John Laing provided help in cash and in kind, and also carried out the construction of extra accommodation units.

More than 5,500 tenants and community representatives have already attended courses at the centre. Small and newly established associations receive financial help to meet the costs of attendance *from a scholarship fund* established by the two companies.

● Education and Training: **Bankers Trust Company.** In each of the past three years the company has given a total of £75,000 to a charity, the Morpeth Educational Trust, formed in partnership with *Morpeth* School, in Tower Hamlets.

The partnership is reported to have played a significant part in raising standards of education, behaviour and motivation among pupils in one of the poorest areas of the capital. Within two years the overall GCSE pass rate has risen from 69 to 85 per cent; the rate for grades A, B and C has risen from 11 to 26 per cent.

Attendance is up from 82 to 90 per cent, and young people with *previously low expectations of* achievement have come to appreciate the importance of further education and the opportunities it affords. Sponsored new activities include a school orchestra, a study weekend for final-year English and maths students, science field trips and a recent week in America for 20 pupils to meet their contemporaries at an American school.

● Special Business Award: **Warwick Wright Motors.** In 1992 the company was asked to consider providing work experience for young people from schools in Lambeth, southeast London, and agreed to accept students to work in its parts, service and administration departments. A number of other smaller garages have also joined the scheme.

M*any of those* taking part attend special schools. For students with social and behavioural problems, ordinary work experience *has* in the past often been considered impracticable, but involvement with cars can frequently help to stimulate new interests and talents.

Although some businesses with limited time and resources have had to limit their participation, Warwick Wright has maintained a year-round commitment. Service managers are available to discuss career opportunities, emphasising the key discipline of learning to work together as a team.

● Special Certificate for the best entry nominated by a community organisation: **The Peckham Partnership.** Including John Laing plc, *Countryside Properties plc,* CATOR Pioneers Tenants Association and Southwark Council, the partnership is dedicated to maximising the numbers of local people receiving training in the building trade and securing work on site. An average of 30 per cent of the workforce comprises people who live in the neighbourhood.

Regeneration of a number of huge housing estates has temporarily displaced large numbers of residents and emphasised the need for greater community involvement in upgrading living standards. A programme of work experience placements for Southwark Direct's Modern Apprentices is an initiative to take young people of both sexes off the unemployment register and recruit them for careers in carpentry, painting and bricklaying.

1997

Bankers Trust is proud to be a winner of the 1997 Dragon Award, and would like to express its thanks and congratulations to the Teachers and Pupils of Morpeth School and Tower Hamlets Education Business Partnership, together with Bankers Trust employees, for their hard work, innovation, and commitment - key ingredients for a winning partnership

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It's good to talk.

BT

BT would like to congratulate their Roots & Wings Mentors on winning the Employee Community Involvement Award.

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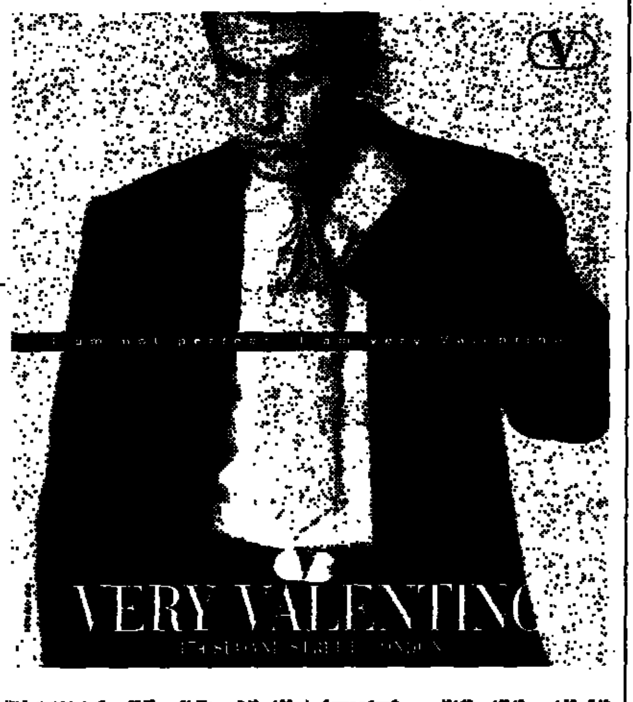
THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB GOVETT UNIT TRUST LTD				
0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7666				
Protected Funds				
UK Safeguard	140.91	150.16†	+ 0.32	.
Do NAV to Jun 20	136.83	136.83		
UK Equity Safeguard	110.50	116.17	..	2.47
Do NAV to Sep 19	106.93	106.93		
Cash	960.42	965.22†	.	5.75
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	380.30	404.60†	+ 3.00	1.74
British Growth	87.30	93.35	+ 0.30	1.43
UK Small Cos	80.56	86.18†	+ 2.20	0.49
FTSE 250 Index	101.80	108.88	+ 0.18	2.11
Geared UK Index	2384.10	2516.84†	+ 11.80	5.75
Income Funds				
UK Equity Inc #	119.88	128.21†	+ 0.70	4.24
Corp Bd	81.05	83.73	- 0.02	
Monthly Inc	43.94	46.88†	...	8.17
International Funds				
American Gen	310.30	328.40	- 1.60	
American Strat	289.68	309.81	- 2.50	
JG US Index	2374.25	2501.66†	+ 28.00	4.00
European Gen	340.20	360.00	- 2.90	.
European Strat	152.02	162.58		.
Japan Gen	130.00	137.60	+ 2.00	...
Asia Pacific	85.18	91.09†	- 0.56	.
Pacific Strat	139.89	149.61	+ 0.20	.
Greater China	252.75	270.32	+ 2.50	
Latin America	134.97	144.34	+ 0.10	
Intl Growth	189.32	202.47	.	
Balanced Exempt	161.60	167.30	.	
Global Strategy	54.12	57.88	- 0.05	.
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	869.60	925.20	+ 4.20	2.31
General Inc	708.80	754.10	+ 3.50	2.31
UK Growth Acc	601.90	640.40	+ 3.00	2.18
UK Growth Inc	380.50	404.80	+ 1.80	2.18
Higher Inc Acc #	1081.40	1150.50	+ 5.40	4.36
Higher Inc Inc #	555.10	590.60	+ 2.90	4.36
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	229.70	242.60	- 0.40	5.30
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	95.65	101.00	- 0.20	5.30
Nth America	456.10	485.30	- 0.40	
Europe	465.30	495.10	- 2.20	0.02
Bal Excell	119.80	127.50	+ 0.60	2.31
Brit Endmts Acc	147.10	156.50	+ 0.30	4.18
Brit Endmts Inc	94.37	100.40	+ 0.20	4.18
Global Opps	120.80	128.40	+ 0.40	
Balanced Acc	75.97	80.93	+ 0.29	2.14
Balanced Inc	69.53	73.97	+ 0.25	2.14
Japan Acc	40.57	43.16	+ 1.08	..
Pac Basin Acc	358.30	381.20	+ 0.70	1.43
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	141.60	150.30†	- 0.10	6.07
High Inc Equity	228.40	244.00†	+ 1.40	4.12
Worldwide Bond	274.80	291.40	- 0.40	3.39
American Growth	541.40	578.20	- 1.50	0.29
Asian Pacific	290.60	310.80	- 0.80	0.44
Assets & Earnings	353.60	378.40	+ 2.30	2.47
Euro Capital Acc	252.40	269.90	- 0.80	0.74
Extra Inc	43.91	46.71†	- 0.17	8.81
General	327.70	348.60	+ 1.80	2.84
Global Opps	84.41	89.60	+ 0.22	0.36
Japan	92.05	98.45†	+ 2.16	
Managed Inc	53.63	57.05†	- 0.02	3.94
Mastertrust	196.30	209.90	+ 0.70	1.06
US Emerging Cos	237.80	254.30†	- 1.30	
Ethical	90.99	96.80	+ 0.38	1.89
International	154.70	164.60	+ 0.10	0.53
Dividend & Growth	84.65	90.05	+ 0.48	3.89
Global Gwth & Sec	78.11	83.48	+ 0.06	2.42
Latin America	100.30	106.70	- 0.40	0.63
Capital Reserve	152.20	152.20		4.59
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
A&P UK Growth	115.80	123.10	+ 0.40	1.92
Equity Income #	162.10	172.40	+ 0.80	2.59
Extra Income #	304.40	323.50	+ 0.88	6.29
Smaller Cos	107.30	114.10†	+ 0.30	2.80
International	138.00	144.60†	- 0.30	1.25
ABERDEEN UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
American	82.61	85.90†	+ 0.18	.

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Fed Int Sec Inc	165.01	165.67	.	8.62
Fed Int Sec Acc	172.48	173.18	..	.
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	942.39	956.63		3.63
Investment Acc	4528.07	4597.51	..	
Fixed Int Inc	133.10	133.84	.	6.60
Fixed Int Acc	264.44	265.50	.	...
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Beckman Intl	95.26	100.17†		5
Beck Bio-Tech	47.56	51.25	+ 0.06	.
Acorn Ethical Tst	220.99	232.06		0.39
City Fin Assets	93.36	98.04†	...	2.71
City Fin Intl	97.12	101.99		0.08
Fitzrs Hse Cap	375.78	398.77		1.56
Buckley Wrld Grth	157.18	168.59†		.
Shaw Utilities	84.01	85.60	+ 0.57	4.06
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	62.76	66.59	- 0.77	.
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Grth	103.82	110.45	- 0.72	
Dragon Growth	61.34	65.80	+ 0.24	0.79
Equity High Inc	116.81	123.60†	+ 0.54	3.26
-do- Accum	175.37	185.57	+ 0.61	3.26
Extra Income Inc	28.62	30.12†	- 0.04	6.14
Extra Income Acc	33.27	35.01	- 0.05	6.14
European Grth	84.67	89.60	- 0.59	0.16
Evergreen	37.65	40.26	- 0.01	...
General Equity	136.40	143.96	+ 0.53	2.45
Japan Growth	39.99	42.54	+ 1.08	
Pedigree Grth	82.54	87.24	+ 0.61	1.82
Prof Sm Cos Inc	42.86	45.35	+ 0.17	1.35
-do- Accum	45.90	48.57	+ 0.18	1.35
Retirement Inc #	35.23	37.48	+ 0.20	5.02
Special Sits	56.88	60.95	+ 0.28	2.78
UK & Overseas	72.64	76.87	+ 0.30	0.54
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 896 000				
Balanced	83.24	86.70	+ 0.18	3.45
Capital	103.40	107.70	+ 0.37	1.85
High Income	56.47	58.82	- 0.12	6.41
Top 50	74.47	77.57	+ 0.24	1.86
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	229.87	239.47†	+ 1.07	4.03
Long Gilt	49.38	51.40†	- 0.37	5.29
Monthly Inc Plus	57.75	60.16†	- 0.02	7.45
Preference Share	54.47	56.75†	- 0.06	6.87
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	165.76	172.68†	+ 0.39	5.19
Managed Fund	87.95	91.62†	+ 0.23	2.47
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	54.36	56.83	+ 0.32	1.50
-do- Accum	65.01	67.73	+ 0.39	1.50
UK & General	126.83	132.13†	+ 2.40	2.13
-do- Accum	168.86	175.98†	+ 3.27	2.13
UK Growth	248.66	258.28	+ 0.80	1.52
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	276.11	287.64	- 1.27	0.47
Far Eastern Gth	120.27	125.29	+ 1.02	0.22
Global Bond	74.93	77.12†	+ 0.10	5.66
Japan Growth	103.99	108.33	+ 2.40	..
North Amer Grth	313.54	326.64	- 1.58	.
Oriental Growth	73.52	76.59	- 0.03	0.64
Worldwide Growth	85.81	89.39	+ 0.17	0.29
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.63	91.63†	+ 0.01	8.27
Homeowner Fund	106.75	113.58	+ 0.24	1.90
Dollar Fund	184.60	196.38	+ 0.77	1.61
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	42.03	44.96	+ 0.42	2.76
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	202.60	215.50	+ 1.40	1.98
Income	89.49	95.20	+ 0.70	3.80



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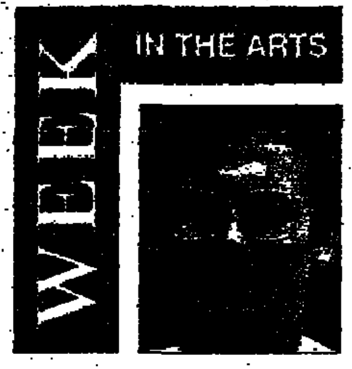
As he said, money can't buy him love



RICHARD MORRISON

Remember Dr Peter's principle of office life? It's the one that says people get promoted until they reach the level at which they are incompetent. Of course (he quickly added with a nervous giggle) that isn't true of *our* office, but it certainly explains a lot about other people's.

Well, a similar law governs cultural life. People who *shine* in one field develop uncontrollable urges to prove themselves utterly mediocre in another. Distinguished writers pine to host chat shows. Gorgeous TV weather-girls yearn to break into "serious acting, darling". Stockbrokers attempt to conduct Mahler. Supermodels write novels ... or so their dust-jackets proclaim.

Then there is Sir Paul McCartney. This week our greatest pop songwriter revealed his own manic ambition: to be Beethoven. His *Standing Stone*, a 75-minute symphony composed with the aid of just two computers and five human assistants, was premiered in the Albert Hall — and promptly garlanded with the most scornful reviews since Peter O'Toole played Macbeth.

Of course, McCartney can afford to take a lofty view of the critics' derision. His last excursion into classical music, the *Liverpool Oratorio* — a work whose chief entertainment value lay in the unusual spectacle of Dame Kiri Te Kanawa singing the role of a Liverpudlian housewife — was similarly ridiculed back in 1991. It has since notched up more than 100 performances. And *Standing Stone* already tops the classical CD charts — not that you need to shift many discs to achieve that.

Nevertheless, the question remains: what compels a genius to attempt something for which neither temperament nor training has equipped him? Cynics would reply that "crossover" is a gimmick invented by slick-suited accountants in greedy record companies. Not so. The inspired tunesmith who desperately wants to be "taken seriously" has been a phenomenon for centuries. Arthur Sullivan, for instance, hated the fact that his fame and fortune derived solely from his collaborations with W.S. Gilbert. He kept writing the comic operas to pay his prodigious gambling bills, but always believed that his best works were his dreary oratorios.

And George Gershwin was constantly striving to "rise" from Tin Pan Alley to Carnegie Hall. I love the story of him meeting the French composer Maurice Ravel and humbly asking for lessons. "How much do you earn?" asked the astonished Ravel. Gershwin revealed the astronomical figure; he had four Broadway shows running simultaneously at the time. Ravel bowed to Gershwin with elaborate irony. "It is I who should be taking lessons from you," he said.

Of course there is resentment when McCartney comes crashing into the classical world. But that is probably triggered by the extraordinary media circus that surrounds him. I still recall the wry remark of the Bishop of Liverpool when McCartney's *Liverpool Oratorio* was premiered in that city's Anglican Cathedral. Before the performance started, the Rt Rev David Sheppard surveyed his unlikely congregation of preening celebs and godless music-biz execs, raised his eyes upwards to the soaring roof of Giles Gilbert Scott's massive nave, and announced with an eloquent sigh: "It is a real *honour* to welcome Paul McCartney to our little cathedral."

The reaction to McCartney's classical excursions from orchestral musicians, however, is probably closer to incredulity than resentment. Why, they wonder, should such a stupendously wealthy man want to enter our impoverished, unglamorous, permanently beleaguered world?

What's the answer? Well, remember George Bernard Shaw's quip when the Hollywood mogul Sam Goldwyn asked him to write screenplays. "The trouble is, Mr Goldwyn, that you are only interested in art and I am only interested in money." That neatly caricatures the two-way envy that exists between "low" and "high" artists of all sorts, but particularly between pop and classical musicians. One bunch has all the dosh, dope, booze and birds — but after a decade or two of hedonistic excess its survivors crave something nobler and finer: immortality, intellectual credibility, knighthoods.

The other lot has centuries-old traditions of profundity, but is pretty well bankrupt. As the legendary Tony Hatch and Jackie Trent so memorably put it: "The other man's grass is always greener; the sun shines brighter on the other side ..."

I like it when someone strays across the Great Musical Divide. The ructions add to the gaiety of nations. They shake up (if only briefly) our over-compartmentalised culture. And, every 20 years or so, a masterpiece is born. After all, Gershwin *did* write *Porgy and Bess* in the 1930s. The classically trained Bernstein did compose *West Side Story* in the 1950s. In the 1970s the Broadway superstar Stephen Sondheim did veer amazingly into dark *verismo* opera with *Sweeney Todd*. And only this year Wynton Marsalis proved that a modern jazzman can blast thrillingly into "classical" territory (and win a Pulitzer Prize) with his moving oratorio, *Blood on the Fields*.

McCartney's *Standing Stone* isn't in that league. But who would blame him if he gives the traditional double-fingered salute to the British press, which has been full of sarcastic suggestions this week about *him* investing in some music lessons before attempting another orchestral epic? How many millions did McCartney earn last year? As Ravel would doubtless have commented, it is we who should be taking lessons from him.

Weathering the storms

RADIO

You would need to have spent the last week on some remote Caribbean islet, studying the effect of hurricanes perhaps, to have missed the outpouring of commemorative broadcasting that heralded yesterday's tenth anniversary of the Great Storm, or Ye Greate Storme as some of the more biblical recollections have tended to identify it.

Readers who share with me the appalling disadvantage of permanently living without light, heat or cultural stimulation (that is, outside the M25) will remember that on October 16, 1987, the South East of England, an area previously thought to be immune to weather, woke up to an absence of heat, light and cultural stimulation (even the radio did not work).

The nation quickly overcame its shock to let out a great cackle of derision in the direction of Michael Fish, the man who had failed, in a radio forecast, to predict that our garden sheds would be turned to matchsticks and our picket fences dispatched to Eastern Europe.

Fish was and is a BBC forecaster, so naturally the corporation, in truly British style, has felt the need to haul Fish through a hedge backwards not once, not twice but thrice this past week or so on radio and television. And did Fish resist? You must be joking.

"Hello, I'm Michael Fish. On the 16th of October 1987, southern and eastern England experienced the most violent winds in living memory." Thus Fish opened **Storm of the Century** (Radio 2), an hour-long recollection of the night in question. It was a splendid programme, good enough to be enjoyed even by those people who thought it sounded vaguely familiar. This was because they had heard **After The Storm** (Radio 4) a few days earlier.

That was a good programme, too. Both had a raft of interesting anecdotes, both dealt with the serious side of the storms, the deaths and devastation, as well as giving an account of the stoical British.

But two programmes on two BBC radio networks commemorating the same event? Is this what Tony Hall, the chief executive of BBC News, was getting at when he announced recently that five tsars, sorry, executive editors would take over from individual programme editors to avoid duplication of resources? And was Hall wrong to back down so hastily?

Yes and no. It is in part what he meant but he was right to back off. The reason is that BBC Radio is a very strange creature, for it not only has five heads — the networks — but it also has five hearts, livers and pairs of lungs. The notion that BBC Radio is an entity is quite wrong. You could put a programme about the Great Storm on all five networks on the same night and hardly anyone would notice. The loyalty of listeners to individual networks is quite remarkable. There are several million people who would rather be dead than lose Radio 4, yet they could not find Radio 5 Live on the dial to save their lives.

They care about the other networks, they wish them to continue, but only as a way of proving that their network is infinitely superior. The Great Storm over Hall's centralisation plans was fanned by listeners as much as by BBC journalists.

PETER BARNARD

Wicked stepmother with gloss

THEATRE

Six months after the Royal Shakespeare folk slammed out of London, the Barbican is back in theatrical business; but not yet with *Henry V*, *Hamlet* and the rest of last summer's Stratford fare. First, we have a modern Japanese play directed by Yukio Ninagawa, whose *Midsummer Night's Dream* last year was as thrillingly inventive as anything the RSC has staged in the last decade. Those hoping for another such banquet will be only slightly disappointed.

The author, Shuji Terayama, died in 1983, leaving behind a reputation for mixing the realistic and modern with the fantastic and sometimes mythic. That skill is much in evidence here, as is an obsession apparently characteristic of his work. Terayama never saw his mother when he was a child — she was working as a housemaid far away — but was brought up by an aunt. Hence, presumably, the weird, painful muddle of emotions that exudes from the recently orphaned title-character when his father makes a second marriage.

The story will not be hard for anyone to follow, especially if he reads the synopsis in the programme and then hears it doggedly repeated before curtain-up by a glum-sounding Alan Rickman. Tatsuya Fujiwara's vulnerable, willowy Shintoku-Maru hates Kayoko Shiraishi's Nadeshiko, whom his bereaved father has acquired at a sort of wife-boutique. Eventually, his bitterness defeats her kindness; he strikes her; and she resorts to black magic in revenge. So to a curiously erotic finale, in which a blinded Shintoku-Maru goes off entwined with his stepmother, presumably to bed.

DONALD COOPER

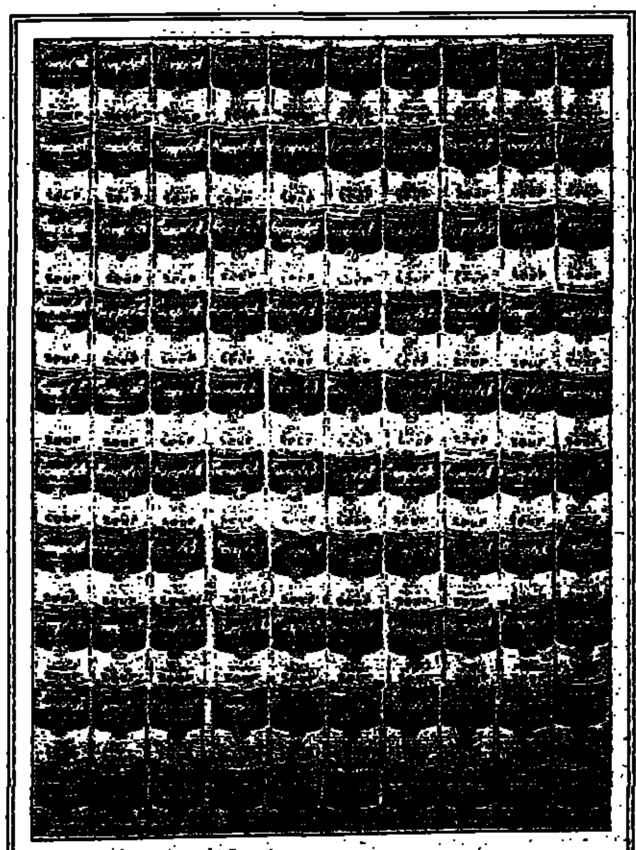
A boy needs his mother: Kayoko Shiraishi as Nadeshiko and Tatsuya Fujiwara as her stepson, Shintoku-Maru, in Shuji Terayama's surreal play

I leave it to the shrinks to disentangle the psychopathology of this. What I can report is that the production never relaxes its grip, thanks partly to the intensity of the principal actors, partly to Ninagawa's direction. I cannot quite explain why the evening opens with showers of sparks as men with drills grind away at the iron bridge straddling the stage. But after that the imaginative sparks keep flying.

There are strange, surreal scenes in which dwarfs mingle with bikers, ballerinas and men with furniture strapped to their backs, while a booth swathed with theatrical masks trundles past. There is a visit to the underworld, a place in which, far from finding his dead mother, Shintoku-Maru is beset by mad, screeching women searching for their dead children among carts covered with flickering candles. And then there is Nadeshiko's graveyard voodoo, a scene terrifying for the force of its anger.

Add music that seems to range from Asia to Weill, Satie and other Western influences, and you have an evening that won't just appeal to the London-based Japanese. Rather, it is as if some gorgeously exotic gloss on Oedipus and Phèdre had come bubbling out of dreamland.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE



TEN OBJECTS OF DESIRE

Richard Cork's daily guide to the Hayward Gallery's new still lifes

■ **ANDY WARHOL:** *100 Cans, 1962*

WHEN Warhol started exhibiting his Pop work in the early 1960s, most viewers found it shocking. Why was he choosing subjects as ordinary as Campbell's Beef Noodle Soup, stacked in rows like a supermarket display? How could such a mass-produced theme deserve to be painted on a large canvas, without any attempt to transform the banality of tinned food? Warhol remained cool despite the hostility, and *100 Cans* now deserves to be ranked among the most memorable images of its period. American society was changing, irreversibly. Warhol's pictures of endlessly changing, irreversibly. Warhol's pictures of endlessly repeatable, identical products, half celebratory and half mocking, defined the new consumerist mood with wit and flair.

☐ *Objects of Desire is at the Hayward (0171-960 4242), sponsored by BMW in association with* The Times

LONDON CONCERTS: A talented British composer unveils her new concerto; and period instruments shine anew

Brilliant tales from the river

ASMF/Marriner
Barbican

SALLY BEAMISH has no publisher, and is represented on CD by just one short piece. Yet the 41-year-old former violist has a substantial body of works to her name, works which musicians have inspired, begged her for, and love to play. A Second Symphony, to be premiered next March, and a Proms commission for the millennium season signal her standing on the British concert stage. And this new cello concerto, *River*, premiered by Robert Cohen, reveals a further expansion of her imaginative vision and a refining of her technique.

The work was dedicated to its commissioner, Robert Cohen, and is perfectly suited to his sensitive virtuosity and fluid elegance. Neville Marriner and the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields responded with vitality to an eloquent score which in many ways is deeply rooted in tradition: though the movements take their titles from Ted Hughes's *River* poem collection, they follow the pattern of vivacious opening, a mercurial-like scherzo, a dolorous largo and a finale with all the en masse rumbustiousness that goes with the territory. It was conceived as a set of variations but, far from sounding contrived, the re-use and reappearance of material created a subtly organic whole. It sprang to life with a lively dialogue between cello and sparsely scored orchestra.

The instrumentation was, on the whole, bright and uncluttered, with lyrical trumpet solos and the brilliantly written cello part in clear space. Only in *Low Water* did the sound thicken, and the mood turn mournful, with divided cellos playing atonal harmonies, providing an "ooze of balsam" out of which the soloist weaves an impassioned soliloquy which owes much to Shostakovich.

The final movement is "coming and going" music, as in the poem, with intricate interweaving of string soloists tinged with tambourine, the back desk of the second violins duetting with Cohen to create a delightfully distanced effect.

Printing the poetry didn't necessarily set the work off to its best advantage. Verse of such dense imagery and complex verbal music of its own is overwhelmingly suggestive. Where was the "toppling tangle of glooms", the truly watery shadows; how many in the audience could imagine the tingling ostinato of night music in "sewing body and soul together" which, for Beamish, was a jumpy, disjointed allegro?

At the same time, her colour painting could be magical: the soft bass and cello pizzicato of the "river throbbing", the shimmer of chimes with iridescent wind as the kingfisher "erupts through a mirror", Cohen's slightly "tipsy" glissandi. Perhaps the question now is not when a publisher will sign up Beamish, but whether she needs one at all.

HELEN WALLACE

It's thrilling to play by the rules

OAE/Mackerras
QEH

THE Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment was on fine form for its concert with one of its most seasoned guest conductors, Sir Charles Mackerras.

The people's period-instrument orchestra's policy of working with a handful of major conductors, each bringing a different perspective to the consistently enlightened programming, has paid handsome dividends: most historically aware groups are closely identified with one individual who may have more to say in one part of the repertory than another. Mackerras may not have the flamboyant appearance of a Rattle, but he is equally capable of bringing out something special.

The overture-concerto-symphony programme was traditional in format, but the interpretations of two familiar works (Beethoven's Violin Concerto and Schubert's Ninth Symphony) and one less so (Mendelssohn's *Trumpet Overture*) brought out their originality and freshness. Mackerras's strength is to set and maintain a tempo with a beat that is taut and full of rhythmic propulsion but never rigid. Thus in the Schubert that Viennese lilt kept breaking out in a seemingly spontaneous way, while in the Beethoven there was no meandering along the way to savour the beauty spots: all was energy and momentum.

This is not to imply any lack of expressiveness (though there was scope for more dynamic shading). By not indulging those often unthinking pullings-around of the tempo common to most modern symphony orchestra accounts, even a work as well known as the Violin Concerto came up as fresh as a daisy.

In this, Mackerras was helped by the soloist, Thomas Zehetmair, who gave a gripping and often daring account of the work. His superb technical control allowed for a true *pianissimo* in the slow movement and dazzling fireworks in the Paganini-like transcriptions of the cadenzas Beethoven wrote for the original version of the concerto — for piano.

All in all, it was a thrilling evening's music-making, with the orchestra maintaining the energy level and commitment right to the final cadence of the marathon that is Schubert's Ninth: another OAE concert to remember.

TESS KNIGHTON

The Royal Opera
The Merry Widow
Franz Lehár
New English translation by Jeremy Sams
[illegible]
[illegible] October [illegible] November
[illegible] December [illegible] January at 7.30pm
[illegible] October [illegible] November at 2.30pm and 7.30pm
[illegible]
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Ticketmaster 0171-957 4020

هكذا من الأصل

WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

LONDON

REICH PREMIERE: *Pioneer of* minimalism, Steve Reich, returns to London with the Ensemble Modern to premiere *The Crashing of the Hindenburg*, Act I of his second video-opera *Three Tales*. The work is a comment on the impact technology has had on the 20th century and is a collaboration with video artist Beryl Korot. Two earlier works by Reich, *Music for Eighteen Instruments* and *Proverb*, complete the programme.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Sunday, 7.30pm. 🅂

RUSSIAN OPERA. The Moscow State Helikon Opera arrives at the South Bank this weekend with three fully staged works. Tomorrow night (7.45pm) there are performances of two shorts: Stravinsky's comic *Mavra*, teamed with *Prokofiev's tragic Maddalena, while on* Sunday (7pm) there is a chance to see *The Queen of Spades*, Tchaikovsky's opera about a compulsive gambler and his downfall.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). 🅂

THEATRE STORIES. Short Ken Campbell season of tall tales to cheer the spirits and amaze the mind.
National (Cottesloe), *South Bank*, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Opens tonight, 7pm. In rep. Until November 1 🅂

ELSEWHERE

CANTERBURY: The **Mark Bruce Dance Company** visits the Canterbury Festival tonight (Gulbenkian Theatre, *7.45pm) with a double bill of provocative* contemporary dance: *Helen*, set to music by Bela Bartók and *Angel* inspired by the music of the pop group Nirvana. Tomorrow's festival highlight is a concert by the period instrument band the **Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment** under Sir Charles *Mackerras (Canterbury Cathedral Nave, 7.30pm) in a programme of Beethoven* and Schubert.
Festival Office (01227 452853).

EDINBURGH. Scottish Opera returns here for the first of three performances of Ian Judge's acclaimed 1992 production of Bellini's tragic masterpiece, *Norma*. *American soprano Frances Ginsberg* sings the role of the fated druid princess.
Festival Theatre, Nicolson Street (0131-529 6000). Tonight, Nov 4 and 8. 7.15pm 🅂

Wayne Marshall plays the organ in Manchester

MANCHESTER. The versatile organist *Wayne Marshall* gives a recital of *arrangements of works by Verdi*, Wagner and Strauss. For the final number, Hart's Concerto for Organ and Jazz Orchestra, Marshall is joined by the Royal Northern College of Music Jazz Orchestra conducted by Clark Rundell.
Bridgewater Hall, Lower Mosley Street (0161-907 9000). Tonight, 7.30pm. 🅂

NORWICH: Tomorrow's major event at the Norfolk and Norwich Festival is a semi-staged performance in Norwich *Cathedral (7.30pm) of* **Alexander's Feast**, Handel's ode for soloists, chorus and orchestra, set to words by Dryden. Robert Hollingworth conducts I Fagiolini, the Brook Street Band and the *Cathedral Consort. A concert in St* Andrew's Hall on Sunday (3pm) brings the autumn's festivities to an end: the **Trinity College of Music Symphony Orchestra and Choir** performs two works by Berlioz, conducted by Andrea Quinn.
Festival Box Office: (01603 764764)

LONDON GALLERIES

European Academy & Accademia Italiana: Josefa de Obidos of Portugal (0171-235 0303) ... **Hayward:** *Objects of Desire (0171-928 3144)* ... **Museum of London:** Bedlam: Custody, care and cure, 1247-1997 (0171-600 0807) ... **National:** Rembrandt: The Blinding of Samson (0171-747 2885) ... **National Portrait:** Glenys Barton (0171-306 0055) ... **New Academy:** Oxford *Printmakers (0171-323 4700)* ... **Royal Academy:** Sensation (0171-439 7438) ... **Saatchi:** Young German Artists (0171-624 8299) ... **Tate:** The Age of Rossetti, Burne-Jones and Watts: Symbolism in Britain 1860-1910 (0171-887 8000) ... **V & A:** Hogarth After Hogarth: A Legacy of Inspiration (0171-938 8349/8441)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

- ■ **House full, returns only**
- ◩ **Some seats available**
- ☐ **Seats at all prices**

◩ **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.** Disney's film turned into a hit Broadway musical. Julie-Alanah Brighten and Alasdair Harvey as the leads.
Dominion*, Tottenham Court Road*, W1 (0171-416 6060). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; *mat* Sat, 2.30pm.

☐ **BOY'S LIFE.** 1988 play by the excellent US writer, Howard Korder. Three young Americans trying to reach adulthood in the customary manner.
New End, 27 New End, Hampstead NW3 (0171-794 0022). Tue-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Sat and Sun, 2.30pm. 🅂

◩ **AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE:** Ian McKellen plays the spa doctor pitting *himself against the community in Trevor* Nunn's highly detailed production. Admirable cast. Only the third London production this century for Ibsen's explosive play.
National Theatre (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight, 7.15pm, tomorrow, 2pm and 7.15pm. *In rep* 🅂

☐ **FAITH:** New Meredith Oakes play, *set somewhere in the Southern* Hemisphere where soldiers display a range of responses as they fight to regain an island. John Burgess directs.
Royal Court Upstairs (Ambassadors), West St, WC2 (0171-565 5000). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm

☐ **HURLYBURLY.** West End transfer for the first hit from Peter Hall's Old Vic company. David Rabe's savagely funny *play about Californian men behaving* very badly indeed. Wilson Milam directs an excellent cast led by Rupert Graves, Jenny Seagrove, Andy Serkis and David Tennant.
Queen's*, Shaftesbury Avenue*, W1 (0171-494 5105). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm

☐ *HRH:* Corin Redgrave and Amanda Donohue play the Duke and Duchess of Windsor in another stage version of their doings, this time exiled to the Bahamas. Simon Callow directs.
Playhouse, *Northumberland Ave*, WC2 (0171-839 4401). Mon-Thur, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm. 🅂

☐ **JANE EYRE:** Shared Experience's touring production in London for a month. Pooky Quesnel's mad Bertha seen as a dark alter ego to Monica Dolan's Jane.
The Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Tue-Sat, 7.30pm; mats *Tue, Thur and Sat, 2.30pm* 🅂

☐ **KAT AND THE KINGS:** Exuberant musical set in Cape Town as rock'n'roll bursts over South Africa.
Tricycle Theatre, Kilburn High Road, *NW6 (0171-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm;* mats Wed, 2pm and Sat, 4pm. 🅂

☐ ***A LETTER OF RESIGNATION:*** Edward Fox and Clare Higgins play Harold Macmillan and Lady Dorothy in Hugh Whitemore's play about the effects of the Profumo scandal.
Comedy Theatre, *Panton Street*, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

☐ **LIFE SUPPORT:** Alan Bates subtly moving in Simon Gray's *play about* remorse for marital treachery.
Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003). *Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed* and Sat, 2.30pm.

☐ ***POPCORN:*** *Ben Elton's blistering* comedy about movie violence. A Tarantinoesque director gets his comeuppance when a couple of serial killers (Corey Johnson and Dena Davis) blame him for their misdeeds.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats *Wed, 3pm, and Sat, 4pm.*

☐ **STEPPING OUT:** *Musical version of Richard Harris's hit play (music and* lyrics by Denis King and Mary Stewart-David). Julia McKenzie directs Liz Robertson and her hopeful hoofers.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thur, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (0171-369 1733) ... ◩ **Buddy:** Strand (0171-930 8800) ... ◩ **Cats:** New London (0171-405 0072) ... ☐ **Jesus Christ Superstar:** *Lyceum (0171-656 1807)* ... ■ **Les Misérables:** Palace (0171-434 0909) ... ☐ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (0171-836 1443) ... ◩ **Oliver!:** Palladium (0171-494 5020) ... ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) ... ☐ **Smokey Joe's Cafe:** Prince of Wales (0171-839 5987)

Ticket information supplied by Society *of London Theatre.*

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

FREE WILLY 3: THE RESCUE (U): Environmentalists versus whale hunters. *Better than expected family drama, with* Jason James Richter. Director, Sam Pillsbury.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Virgin Trocadero** 🅂 (0171-434 0031) **Warner** 🅂 (0171-437 4343)

HARD EIGHT (18): Gambling, blackmail and murder in Reno. And first film from rising director Paul Thomas Anderson. With *Philip Baker Hall*, John C. Reilly and Gwyneth Paltrow.
Metro (0171-437 0757)

◆ **SHOOTING FISH** (12): Sprawling British comedy about young adventurers running scams. Not as good as it thinks it is. With Stuart Townsend, Dan Futterman, Kate Beckinsale. *Director*, Stefan Schwartz.
Notting Hill Coronet 🅂 (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Camden** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker St** (0171-935 2772) ***UCI Whiteleys*** 🅂 *(0990 888990)*

A SIMPLE WISH (U): Adventures of *Martin Short's accident-prone male fairy* godmother. So-so children's film, with Mara Wilson. Director, Michael Ritchie.
Plaza 🅂 (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990)

SUBURBIA (18): Telling comedy drama about aimless American youth, from Eric Bogosian's play. Richard Linklater directs an excellent cast.
ABCs: Piccadilly (0171-437 3561) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Metro** (0171-437 0757)

◆ **WILDE** (15): Stephen Fry as Oscar Wilde: fine and touching, though the film is more timid than you might expect. Conventional direction by Brian Gilbert.
Barbican 🅂 (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 *4255)* ***Haymarket*** *(0181-315 4212)* **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Screen/Hill** 🅂 (0171-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Warner** 🅂 (0171-437 4343)

CURRENT

THE GAME (18): Sleek businessman Michael Douglas gets a shake-up. *Outlandish thriller from Seven director* David Fincher. With Sean Penn, Deborah Kara Unger.
ABC Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Empire** 🅂 (0990 888990) 🅂 **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Notting Hill Coronet** 🅂 (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) ***Swiss Cottage*** *(0181-315 4220)* **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** 🅂 (0171-434 0031)

NIL BY MOUTH (18): *Family crises in a* South London housing estate. A raw slice of life from debuting director Gary Oldman. Powerful performances by Ray Winstone and Kathy Burke.
Barbican 🅂 *(0171-638 8891)* **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Gate** 🅂 (0171-727 4043) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) ***Swiss Cottage*** *(0181-315 4220)* **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)

PUSHER (18): *Gritty Danish thriller* about a drug pusher's downfall, from first-time director Nicolas Winding Refn.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **ICA** 🅂 (0171-930 3647)

TEMPTRESS MOON (15): Gigolo is obsessed with the daughter of a decaying household. Lusciously visualised period melodrama by Chen Kaige, director of *Farewell My Concubine*. With Leslie Cheung and Gong Li.
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

An English Romantic goes live. Plus touring Rossini and Scottish Britten

DONALD COOPER

Karl Daymond (Jean) and Judith Howarth (Miss Julie) in William Alwyn's fine adaptation of Strindberg's drama

Cold heat of August

Until Wednesday, none of William Alwyn's four operas had progressed beyond the recording or broadcasting studio, so the stage premiere of *Miss Julie* gave a tantalising indication of what we had been missing.

Miss Julie is quite possibly the finest work by Alwyn (1905-85), an *"English Romantic"* composer whose output includes five symphonies and more than 60 film scores, and once again the enterprising Theatre Royal, scene of this summer's *Ring* cycle, has recognised the good thing and seized the initiative.

Miss Julie has much to recommend it, not least August Strindberg's play. Several composers have set it, and Alwyn's version to his own libretto emphasises its suitability: the drama moves quickly and incisively, with words tied closely to the music. Composed in the mid-1970s, Alwyn's *unashamedly* Romantic score may sound derivative, *but even the obvious* influences of Puccini and Strauss are absorbed into a whole distinctive and strongly theatrical.

[redacted]

Alwyn wastes no time in plunging into the midsummer-night madness of the plot, and the opening scene is a hurtling scherzo. It suggests that with a lighter play, the composer might have written a good musical comedy. The piece is infused with snatches of dance, and the vivid orchestration captures the mood of Nordic summer. There is a strong erotic charge and energy in this demanding score, and the *Britten Sinfonia* coped admirably under Nicholas Cleobury's *vigorous baton.*

The production, by Benjamin Luxon with Peter Wilson, catches the atmosphere and class tensions and etiquette very well. Andrew Leigh's design for the kitchen of the Swedish count's country house looks like something out of Ikea's rustic collection, but that probably means only that the furniture superstore did its research correctly. Evocative lighting completes the staging: indeed, this four-hander makes such modest demands that it is surprising no one has taken it up before.

The Theatre Royal has assembled a fine cast, with Judith Howarth, *in shining* voice, embodying the spoilt, *wilful and tragic Miss Julie.* Karl Daymond uses his rugged *baritone* well, *offering* a carefully observed portrait of the valet Jean. Fiona Kimm sings with excellent clarity as the cook Kristin, and Ian Caley makes his mark as the drunken gamekeeper Ulrik.

A good but not great opera, *Miss Julie* deserves to be seen more often. Catch the final performance tomorrow.

JOHN ALLISON

Emotional vacuum

In creating an image of Peter Grimes *as an outsider destroyed by an* unsympathetic society, claims Michael Wilcox *in his important new biogra*phy of Britten, the composer and Peter Pears were deflecting attention from the dark storm in Britten's own life. And in the year in which this book controversially claims musical endorsement for Grimes as violent child abuser, Joachim Herz's no less dark and uncompromising Scottish Opera production returns (Festival Theatre), its edges scarcely softened in Elaine Kidd's restaging.

The more vicious the society, Britten declared before the opera's New York *premiere, the more vicious the individual.* And if this society is anything to go by, it *has certainly spawned a monster.* Once again, it is the crowd, the chorus which cracks *the whip in this production.* Despite the often stagey groupings on the many wooden-plank levels, its physical and vocal power is formidable. And Richard Armstrong, in the pit, whets the knifeblade of its every entry, pushing ahead inexorably until that last chorus where the mob appears head-on as a single, snarling animal.

[redacted]

Yet, by the end, one is moved only by admiration for its endurance. The rest is an emotional silence, partly because the *staging is flawed: the substitution of the* opening courtroom by the static, spotlit *appearance of its characters, as if in a* psycho-drama within Grimes's own mind, is dramatically impotent and inconsistent with the cardboard cut-out realism of the action.

In this revival, though, the real weakness is the central trio of characters — a weakness that constantly undermines and erodes *the considerable power built* within the pit. Jeffrey Lawton reveals too *little of the coiled inner anger, determ*ination and viciousness of Grimes. In visionary mode, the voice is only weak; in manic despair and terror, neither the voice nor the body seems on the rack.

David Barrell's Balstrode is lively and engaging, but has insufficient vocal and physical ballast, while Amanda Thane's Ellen Orford simply lacks the vocal focus to articulate her music eloquently, let alone move us by it. The top of the voice is distressingly threadbare: one began to dread the appearance of the "embroidery" aria. Casting was more secure within Britten's Borough. With Elizabeth Vaughan well *nigh stealing the show as a* superbly musical and nicely uncaricatured Auntie, and with Christopher Purves as a resonant Ned Keene, ensembles counterpointed vigorously with chorus and orchestra — and in the circumstances that counted for a lot.

HILARY FINCH

Cinders à la grunge

English Touring Opera has usually had better luck with conductors than with directors, and its new production of Rossini's Cinderella opera on Wednesday turned into something of a battle between a first-rate musical performance and a staging that barely reached an acceptable level of professional competence.

Andrew Greenwood, the company's music director, found just about everything there is to be found in this miraculous score — its wit, charm, boundless human warmth. He drew properly appreciative playing from his

[redacted]

willing orchestra and showed admirable consideration for *the singers.*

But it soon became obvious — *even during the overture* — that the best thing to do would *be to switch off from Leah* Hausman's production in grungy decor by Katrina Lindsay; if they were seeking to make a virtue of complete inconsistency of dramatic style, then they failed. Gobbets of Grimm have nothing whatsoever to do with Rossini, any more than do elements of the magic be so systematically expunged from the work.

Occasionally the director and the opera at *hand collided*, notably in the case of Henry Waddington's *Don Magnifico*, a *thoroughly Rossinian mixture of* sadistic brute *and ridiculous* buffoon, and very neatly sung into the bargain. Eugene Ginty's bookish, shy Prince Ramiro worked well; he must be unique in singing Rossini tenor roles *and* Puccini's Cavaradossi, and will have to decide which direction to take. I hope he plumps for Rossini, and works on his top.

Juliet Norman was made to play a chippy, sulky Cenerentola. *Her technique is formi*dable (again, the top needs *work) and like all the cast she* sings words, a dubious virtue in that it cast an unkind spotlight on a translation ripe for retirement. Michael John Pearson (Alidoro) has a fine voice, but oversang: as far as I am aware ETO is not currently casting about for a Wotan. Matthew Hargreaves (Dandini) was also tempted to field more tone than necessary. Paula O'Sullivan and Lydia Marchione were the common-as-mud sisters.

But in the end, thanks to Greenwood, you came out of the theatre knowing you had heard a worthy account of one of the most humane and life-enhancing of all operatic comedies, and that can't be bad.

RODNEY MILNES

EXHIBITIONS

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هكذا من الإصل

File under girding of loins

Jimmy Nail is taking it easy this year – he's only tackling enough work to buckle two ordinary men. **Paul Sexton** reports

Jimmy Nail knows that his reputation precedes him. He greets me at a London hotel with a cheery "Right, Paul, you're the next one to be eaten alive." But whatever the demons of a turbulent northeastern upbringing that helped to create the image of the fire-breathing, journalist-munching, multimedia megalomaniac, Nail seems to have them under his thumb.

The singer/songwriter/actor/producer/one-man media centre has enjoyed, for him, a low-key year. No new television roles or movie projects, just an arena tour, a new best-of album and a couple of screenplays. It's the closest a workaholic such as him is likely to come to taking a year off.

"It's been a period of reflection and assessment," he says. "The intention was to have a relatively calm 12 months. But you get addicted to being on the box and in people's living rooms; it's quite difficult to step away from that. On the other hand, I found it liberating, in a scary kind of way. You're not sure what's coming next, but that's not too bad."

In the dozen years after his small-screen emergence in *Auf Wiedersehen, Pet*, Nail's frenzied schedules produced the drama series *Spender*, two series of that tangled tale of a country crooner, *Crocodile Shoes*, a cinematic debut in *Evita*, and a hugely successful singing career. But when, late in 1995, his work schedule nearly blew a fuse, Nail knew it was time for a rethink.

"I finished *Evita* on the Thursday evening and began the second *Crocodile Shoes* series on the Friday morning," he recalls. "That was madness. For the first two or three weeks, I was calling everyone the wrong names. When I think about the way I used to work, I must have been insane — 18-hour days; six, seven days a week."

When I visited him at his North London home in the summer, Nail was resting warily. "It doesn't come easy," he said then, "especially to a working-class lad who carries the whole guilt-ridden work ethic scenario, where unless you're out there digging a trench you feel like you're not doing something. But there are times when leisure time is actually more productive than being on the block and trying to create."

Appearing in *Evita* gave Nail an insight into how the other half works. "I found it incredibly refreshing simply to be the actor for hire, to go in and be told what to do by somebody I greatly respect. If Alan [Parker, the director] doesn't like something he tells you why, you do it again and then you leave and go home. It was tremendous. I hadn't done that since *Auf Wiedersehen*."

Uncoincidentally, he has fallen out of love with the medium that made his name. "I felt I'd got really stale, and I didn't have anything really special to give. I'm not interested in doing it just for the sake of working in television. Everything's so pared down financially; there's no adventure, no magic."

> ‘I felt I'd got stale; I didn't have anything special to give’

So he *is* working on a brace of screenplays for feature films and considering a movie offer. "If I could, I'd work regularly in features, because you have longer to do less," he says. "I'm used to doing episodic TV, and the schedules are becoming almost impossible."

Meanwhile, Nail's musical life is coming back to the boil. *The Nail File* album collects the highlights of his sure-footed recording endeavours, starting with the sophisticated 1985 version of *Love Don't Live Here Anymore* that first suggested these were more than the part-time pop dabblings of an itinerant actor. Big hits such as *Ain't no Doubt* and *Crocodile Shoes* and stylishly reflective pieces such as Paddy McAloon's *Cowboy Dreams* and Nail's own *Big River* are the work of someone called to music early, as a spotty fan of Motown and Stax, before acting took him away.

Next year will also bring a new studio album, and the spring holds an enormous, 37-date *On the Boards* tour of Britain, so called as he is voluntarily scaling down to hall-size venues. "I got a bit suspicious of my own motives on the last arena tour," he says. "There was something unsettling about the size of it. We sold the bigger halls twice, and the management would much prefer me to do them because it's more cost-effective. But I had such a good time when I was doing the city hall-sized venues. And I've never liked the idea of people travelling to see a band. The band should tour, not the audience."

● *The Nail File is released by East West*

Jimmy Nail demonstrates his file, a witty visual pun and cunning plug for his new greatest hits album

The kings of rococo'n'roll

Come on, then, Stuart Staples of Tindersticks, explain yourself and your air of doomed magnificence

There is a certain vocabulary that you employ when writing about Tindersticks: a cheap red wine; velvet worn through the nap; chipped gilt; dusty ballrooms with cracked glass ceilings; demob suits; ashtrays domed and full in the foreground as bored, lipstick-caked strippers kick their *sequinned knickers offstage in* the background.

Even the sleeve of *Curtains*, their third album, speaks in Tindersticks vocabulary. It shows a swatch of fabric or wallpaper sprawled with roses — and not the voluptuous, fat, scarlet *woman-things of* romance and *erotica, no, but brown* roses, dried and *seemingly* varnished with nicotine. The sleeve-notes are also worth perusing as, in the space where bands usually thank their mothers, their pubmates and God, Tindersticks *note that they are* "outfitted by Timothy Everest *of London*". *Bands who revere* tailoring are to be trusted. *They know the importance of* detail, texture, fit and flow.

CAITLIN MORAN

So it's quite a shock to meet up with Stuart Staples, Tindersticks' singer and lyricist, and find that the 1990s still honk and hustle outside the restaurant windows, and that Staples himself has a mobile phone placed squarely centre table.

"My wife's due to have our second child any second now," *he says, gesturing towards it* apologetically. "I might have *to run off and, um, stand* around uselessly. I was there *for the last one as well," he* adds, rolling up a tiny matchstick of Rizla and tobacco, which flares and goes out instantly. "The colour of the umbilical cord was extraordinary — iridescent aquamarine, like insect's wings."

The other shock on meeting Staples comes from the discovery that his voice is exactly as it is on records: a hushed bass *rumble which slurs around* the edges, like a drunken bear reading goodnight stories to a sleepy baby. It's inordinately soothing. My lids grow heavy and, at one point, I start to suck my thumb.

"It's a strange old voice," he says, relighting his cigarette and sighing *as it instantly* winks out again. "I don't really like *it. I've only really wanted* to be a singer in the last year."

Now, of course, Staples's voice is one of the most famous in Britain, thanks to Vic Reeves mimicking it in the *Shooting Stars* "club singer" round. But as *Shooting Stars* is so far removed from Tindersticks' world — I *rather suspect* Tindersticks' Bakelite TV sets might not pick up BBC2 — we move on to the subject of the band's *unBritishness*. Their fluid passions seem rooted in Brazil or Spain, while the faded glamour *speaks of Berlin while the* Wall was still up, or Paris's *more neglected boulevards.*

"We're not part of that 'proud to be British' mentality," Staples acknowledges. "It's more of a means to an end. Our families are here, our houses and our children, but it's not something we feel we have to shout about. I feel I take something from each place I visit. We played recently in Stockholm, in the venue where they present the Nobel Peace Prize. *It's this beautiful* austere 1920s concert hall, and *I went to look at it before the* gig, and started imagining *how we could play to suit the* venue, how the architecture *would aid the songs."*

Rooted out of time, Tindersticks will never fade or wither in the fume-filled motorway of the charts. Rather, they will glitter and glow, like black rubies in the crown jewels of drunken adult symphonies.

● *Tindersticks' new single,* Rented Rooms, *is released on Monday by Island Records*

Who says nobody could do it better?

DAVID ARNOLD
Shaken and Stirred — The James Bond Project
(East West 3984207382 £13.99)

ALTHOUGH David Arnold has composed film scores for blockbusters such as *Stargate* and *Independence Day*, he is probably best known as the writer of Björk's 1993 hit, *Play Dead*, which he incorporated in his soundtrack for the movie *The Young Americans*.

For *Shaken and Stirred*, Arnold has corralled a bevy of pop stars including Iggy Pop, Shara Nelson, Aimee Mann and Natacha *Atlas*, and set them to work on a selection of *themes and* songs from various James Bond movies. The result is a volatile marriage of the conventional (Martin Fry's volcanic rendition of *Thunderball*; Chrissie Hynde's plodding remake of *Live and Let Die*) and the unexpected (a light techno makeover of *Spacemarch* by Leftfield; an *All Time High* by Pulp which is more Cocker than Bond).

Among the many highlights are a wonderfully kitsch version of *Diamonds are Forever* by David McAlmont, who out-Basseys the original, and a hurtling, block-rocking beats arrangement of *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* by the remix duo Propellerheads that is already a Top Ten hit.

Notwithstanding its merits as a drum & bass track, LTJ Bukem's treatment of the *James Bond Theme* itself renders it unrecognisable as the piece of music, written by Monty Norman, which has accompanied so many richly implausible action sequences over the years. The original version is currently available on a new compilation, *Themeology — The Best Of John Barry* (Columbia).

LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY
Postcards from Heaven
(Wild Card/Polydor 539 516 £13.99)

EVERY so often an act comes along that doesn't so much fly in the face of fashionable wisdom as glide straight over it. One thinks of Dire Straits rising from the aftermath of punk or Sade calmly sailing to the top while the New Romantic hordes were still doing their worst. Having quietly arrived with a serene, upmarket brand of British soul during the heyday of *raucous, guitar-driven* Britpop, Lighthouse Family *displayed a similarly timeless* appeal with their multi-platinum debut album, *Ocean Drive*, released in 1995.

CDs reviewed in *The Times* can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345 023498

NEW ALBUMS

The only problem is that having bucked the trend once, there is absolutely no incentive to interfere with a winning formula. So, for all its super-relaxed charm, *Postcards from Heaven* does have a rather complacent feel to it. Blessed with a voice that oozes soul quite effortlessly, Tunde Baiyewu rarely sounds as if he's operating at anything *more than quarter strength*.

Restless, with its lyric about "Looking for my soul", hints at something deeper, and the title track has a breezy appeal. But overall, this album sounds just a little too suitable as wine-bar music for comfort.

CHRIS DUARTE GROUP
Tailspin Headwhack
(Silvertone ORE 548 £14.99)

THE stumbling block for so many blues-rock guitarists who take Jimi Hendrix and Stevie Ray Vaughan as musical role models is their inability to move beyond the slavish copying stage. Not so Chris Duarte, a sensationally gifted guitarist and singer from Austin, Texas.

True, some of his own songs on his group's second album, *Tailspin Headwhack*, have a somewhat familiar ring, and he even rattles off an obscure Hendrix instrumental called *Drivin' South*. But Duarte also has a tremendous feel for modern funk rhythms, harnessing B.B. King's standard *The Thrill is Gone* to a shuffling (programmed) beat and turning the old Meters song *People Say* into a powerful, razor-creased groove.

If you are at all tempted to buy yet another dodgy collection of "new" Hendrix out-takes, it would make better sense to check out *Tailspin Headwhack* first.

TOP TEN ALBUMS

1	(1)	**Urban Hymns**	Verve (Hut)
2	(3)	**Be Here Now**	Oasis (Creation)
3	(–)	**Fresco**	M People (M People)
4	(2)	**The Big Picture**	Elton John (Rocket)
5	(4)	**Portishead**	Portishead (Go! Beat)
6	(–)	**The Nail File**	Jimmy Nail (East West)
7	(16)	**The Velvet Rope**	Janet Jackson (Virgin)
8	(13)	**Woman In Me**	Louise (EMI)
9	(7)	**White on Blonde**	Texas (Mercury)
10	(5)	**Marchin' Already**	Ocean Colour Scene (MCA)

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● *Figure in brackets denotes last week's position*

ROACHFORD
Feel
(Columbia 488526 £14.49)

ONE of those artists who never seem to locate a natural constituency, Andrew Roachford virtually has to rebuild his career from scratch with every new album. Still, at least his record company has stuck with him, enabling the South Londoner and his self-named band to lavish the usual *attention to detail on their* fourth album, *Feel*.

As before, it is a strong, thoughtful collection of songs that do not so much straddle the divide between British rock and American soul as fall somewhere between the two. This time, however, numbers such as *The Way I Feel* and *Naked Without You* have a distinctly acoustic ambience, giving the album a softer, *more accessible feel than in* the past and leaving plenty of *room for Roachford's power*ful voice to occupy centre stage.

"Any way you ride/Got to pay the price," he sings in *Nothing Free*, and no one could dispute that Roachford has paid his dues. But while he clearly has the talent and the songs, he *still lacks* the timing and impatient personality *needed to be a much* bigger star than he is.

DAVID SINCLAIR

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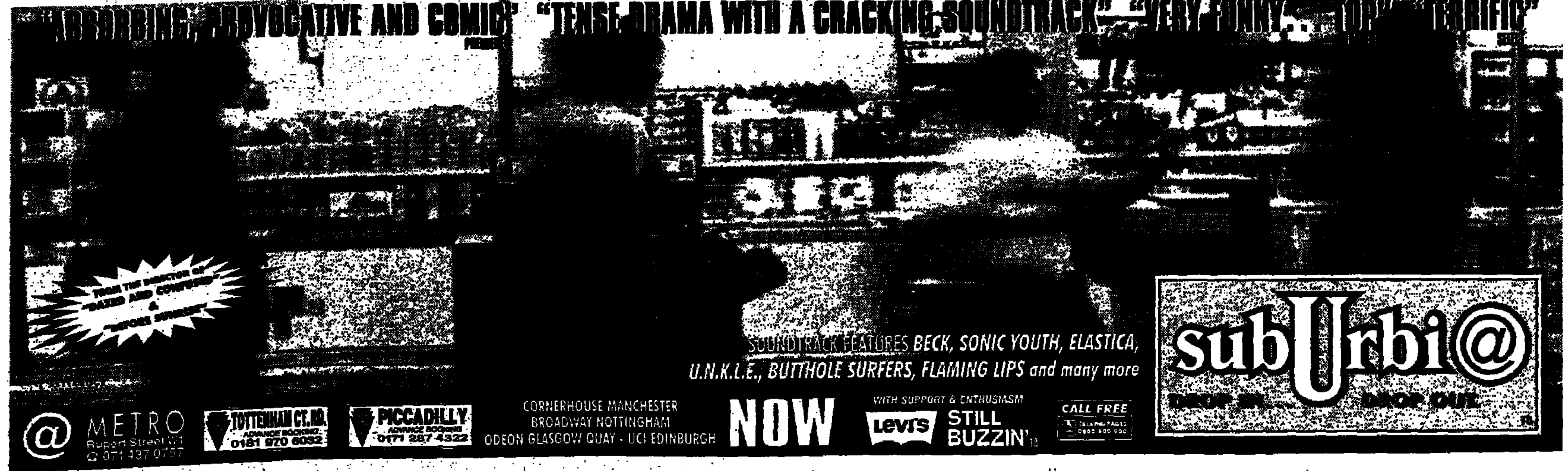

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John Howson, below, on a new strategy to attract graduates and **Kevin Berry**, right, on the status of teachers

Recruiting plan goes big screen

Star-studded commercials promoting teaching as a career will appear on cinema screens for the first time today. The advertisements, which feature Tony Blair and other leading figures, are the key element of the Teacher Training Agency's new recruitment strategy, which also features an award-winning exhibition stand with an Internet site as a central feature.

In the present competitive employment market for graduates, the TTA is only catching up with techniques used by other employers. The Ministry of Defence, for example, has used TV commercials to try to recruit service personnel.

There may have been a growth in graduate numbers, but teaching still needs about 20,000 new graduates if there are to be enough teachers to staff the schools. This makes the profession the largest single recruiter of graduates.

There are some success stories to report. In the recruitment round for courses that started this autumn, applications from graduates wanting to train as primary school teachers exceeded all previous records, with over 13,000 people, mostly women, applying for the 4,000 or so places available.

However, it is a different story when it comes to attracting would-be teachers to work in secondary schools. In many subjects, the number of applicants has been falling in each of the past four years. Many universities will have started the new term with vacancies on their maths and science PGCE courses despite the Government's decision last autumn to cut back on the number of places available.

In the field of design and technology, where industrial experience is often regarded as helpful for trainee teachers, the position is of even greater concern. When student numbers are counted later this month it is possible that little more than half the places on offer will have been filled. If there is a spate of last-minute dropouts the final figure may be even worse.

Even in English, traditionally thought of as an easy-to-recruit subject, the figures are disturbing. Mainstream PGCE courses attracted only about 150 applicants for each 100 places and half the courses in England and Wales still had vacancies at the end of August.

Recruitment problems place the training institutions in a dilemma. Clearly they don't want to recruit potentially poor teachers, but they do need enough students to make a course viable. In the past they have probably erred on the side of optimism and recruited students who needed considerable support to turn into adequate teachers. A point confirmed, at least as far as languages students are concerned, by Ofsted in its evidence to the Teachers' Review Body.

'There are some success stories to report'

With the drive towards quality in education started by the previous Government and continued by this one, admissions tutors may, in the future, decide to offer places only to those who will clearly meet the quality requirements.

In the short term, such a move would be likely to depress the numbers being trained as secondary teachers still further. In the longer term, it would help to raise the standard of the profession.

However, for standards really to be raised, the Government needs to consider the link between economic reality and public sector pay. Put simply, the more people invest in their own education, forgoing the chance of earning now, the more they will expect a return on their investment at some point in the future.

As individuals are expected to pay for parts of their education, their attitudes are sharpened. Normally, that return is expressed in monetary terms by means of a higher salary, but that need not be the case. For women entering primary school teaching, it could be the chance to spend quality time with their children, either now or at some time in the future. There are also the intrinsic benefits of working with young children. Both of these reasons may go some way to explain the continued buoyant recruitment to primary school teaching.

Tony Blair meets Eric Anderson, his former English teacher, whom he praises in the new commercial

Secondary school teaching does not seem to have the same appeal. Adolescence is not an easy stage of many people's lives and working with this group en masse every day, seems to be less popular as a career option. The Government seemingly has a choice in its support for the TTA's attempt to attract better quality entrants to secondary teaching as a career — it can pay more, or it can offer some other form of return to individuals to repay their investment.

The cheapest option is to "talk up" teaching. The profession offers an intellectually challenging career with a developing career structure. More defined career paths and better induction procedures, now being developed by the TTA, will follow the introduction of training for senior staff through various schemes. There is also the promise of a General Teaching Council.

On the financial front the zero rating of fees from PGCE courses from 1998 is good news but will take time to filter through to potential applicants. Salary levels in teaching are still competitive in many areas of the country but in London, when compared with figures released by the Association of Graduate Recruiters earlier this summer, both starting amounts and possible earnings after five years are beginning to fall behind many other employment opportunities.

There comes a point where teaching does not seem to provide individuals with sufficient return on the investment they have made in their education. A knowledge-based society needs able graduates to staff its schools. Without such staff, it will also be more difficult to raise standards. Any shortage of teachers will be felt first and worst in the very schools that need the best teachers — those with the most challenging pupils. I started my teaching career in London during the recruitment crisis of the early 1970s. At that time many children were being taught by teachers without qualifications in the subjects they were teaching and teacher turnover was rapid. There is now a danger that they are reappearing in London in the late 1990s.

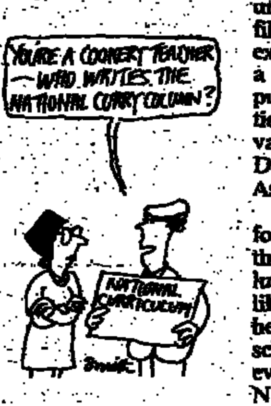
● The author, an education analyst, is writing in a personal capacity. Until recently he was the Teacher Training Agency's chief professional adviser on teacher supply.

They all want to be teacher's pet

In my part of Yorkshire a story is often told when neighbours first meet each other... Windle was leaning over the hedge chatting to a neighbour who happened to be an accountant. Confused by a tax item, he asked the accountant for advice; the accountant gave it and then they changed the conversation to football or something equally flippant.

Three days later, Windle received through the post an itemised bill — for the accountant's time and advice.

That is an extreme example of someone tapping into a neighbour's skill and expertise to solve a problem. Windle, poor chap, was a teacher and he had no expertise with which to barter, no expertise on which the accountant or any other neighbours would place any value.


YOU'RE A COOKERY TEACHER — WHO WRITES THE NATIONAL CURRY COLUMN?
NATIONAL CURRICULUM

I remember thinking at the time that people never seemed to seek a teacher's advice. It was simply because everyone was an education expert: they had all been to two or three schools and they had been educated. In 20 years I cannot recall one instance of a neighbour asking my advice about the education system or a problem with a son or daughter. They knew best.

If help was needed with an after-dinner speech or a complicated letter, they would ask me — not because I taught English but because I wrote stories and articles for a rural magazine. That skill allowed me to tap into the neighbourhood expertise grapevine.

I often despaired that teachers were not seen in the same light, and I mean class teachers and not just elite officer class. I had overwhelming admiration for Mrs Brooke, a wonderful reception teacher, who lived close by. She was remarkably unflappable, patient and capable of turning any screaming brat into a happy, eager, curious and calm child. When my own children came, I would always ask her about suitable books and games and play groups, but I was the only neighbour who ever did.

Now things have changed, and the national curriculum is responsible. It might be irksome and irritating, but it has given teachers perceived expertise. Parents obviously have not experienced it and they haven't the time to read and understand file after file of material. The expertise comes with a whole package of puzzling abbreviations and gloriously vague vocabulary: Don't understand it? Ask a teacher.

In the months before I left teaching, the national curriculum was sweeping in like a mill fire and the head teacher of my school arranged an evening to explain the NC and other bewildering new things to parents. The hall was packed as never before, and the parents demanded more.

When I now see Mrs Brooke at neighbourhood gatherings, she is being asked questions about education: her expertise is being tapped into and that expertise has raised her status.

Windle is much happier. The accountant has asked his advice about exam revision books and even made an appointment with Windle. Will he send the accountant a bill? He's not saying.

The standards that all trainees must reach to gain Qualified Teacher Status include:

- **Knowledge and understanding:** know pupils' common mistakes, degree-level expertise of specialist subject (secondary), A-level knowledge for primary
- **Planning, teaching and class management:** Identify clear objectives and content for every lesson, set targets for each pupil, establish a purposeful working atmosphere, maintain a good standard of discipline through well-focused teaching and positive relationships
- **Monitoring and assessment:** Use testing to monitor strengths and weaknesses, present informative reports to parents
- ***Other professional requirements:*** *Set a good example to pupils* through presentation and personal and professional conduct

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http://www.the-times.co.uk CHANGING TIMES

Fax buddies: Mandy Tobin and Donna Reading, of the Heathlands School in Hertfordshire, who are both profoundly deaf

Message of hope from the fax

A commonplace machine is helping deaf children

Pupils on school trips to France often fight shy of speaking to the natives, but become wildly enthusiastic once their first muttered words are understood. Teachers are gratified to see children who have yawned their way through lessons suddenly start working out sentences and looking up words.

A three-month experiment using fax machines to enable deaf children — whose first language is British Sign Language — to talk English to adult volunteers has produced similar results. From a stumbling start, children whose first faxes consisted of only two sentences suddenly started turning out two pages of A4.

Nine-year-olds Mandy Tobin and Donna Reading, of the Heathlands School, St Albans, Hertfordshire, are both profoundly deaf and come from deaf families. Most of their friends are deaf. As the trial went on, they became confident enough to write to ask for an explanation when a promised picture did not turn up.

Their teacher, Sara Head, said: "It was highly motivating for them to get a fax back the same day. Knowing that someone at the other end would read their letter, the children wanted to develop written English skills. It was also useful for them to learn to use the technology. The fax machine is one of the ways in which deaf people will increasingly communicate with one another and with the outside world. One boy started to use his parent's fax machine at home to send messages to his uncle. Fortunately, our adult volunteers have promised to continue with the scheme; if not, we would have sought new volunteers from local firms."

The eight schools that took part in the trial want to continue the scheme. About 1,000 faxes were exchanged by the 82 children, aged between seven and 16, and their adult "fax buddies" — volunteers from the National Association of Head Teachers, the BBC, the National Council for Educational Technology and BT. Teachers reported improvements in writing, grammar, spelling, handwriting, fluency, confidence and in readiness to try to communicate.

BT supplied the fax machines and produced a guide for the volunteers, explaining the need to keep sentences simple. Volunteers had to exercise some ingenuity in making their messages easy to understand; some initially used difficult vocabulary and complicated sentences. For example, the sentence "I sent the message on to him" baffled Mandy, who faxed back "Why you sent to me I read your fax said message on to him. I said I am not boy am girl." This misunderstanding gave the teacher an opportunity to discuss the grammatical problem.

The best fax buddies incorporated sketches in their letters and asked simple questions to keep the conversation going. All the schools found that the length of the faxes children wrote increased during the life of the project. Teachers noticed growing independence in the pupils' approach to writing.

The scheme proved liberating for Charlene Harrop, a teenager from Ashton-on-Mersey School in Cheshire, who started to use the fax to arrange shopping and social trips with a deaf friend.

Matthew James from the Deafex Trust, who helped to evaluate the scheme, said: "With the fax, children are able to read messages in their own time and consider their responses. The pressure to reply to questions on the spot can be very discouraging. That is why the fax is such a useful starting point for young deaf children."

Other educational benefits were clearer handwriting, development of a greater range of language use, increased vocabulary and a new enthusiasm for English. One girl's pleasure in receiving faxes shone through in her anxious message: "You can't send me fax on 25 May to June 1 (I go to Paris). You will send me fax on June 2, OK?"

JENNY KNIGHT

● A guide to setting up schemes with hearing-impaired children similar to those with speech and language difficulties is available from Kate Evans of BT: 0171-356 8876 (fax 0171-600 5584).

هكذا من الأصل

James Miller and **Martin Stephen** on starting science degrees at school

Revolution in the classroom

We have a bizarre, even nonsensical, situation in schools and universities.

On the one hand, there is a national concern at the declining proportion of able young people opting for the pure and applied sciences at university; on the other, the trend towards a four-year MSc, MChem, etc (rather than a three-year BSc) as the norm is hardly likely to attract more students as tuition fees are imposed and maintenance grants withdrawn. On the one hand, universities are increasingly strapped for cash; on the other, they are looking to fund four-year courses. On the one hand, universities find it difficult to attract able scientists; on the other, such students are often far from stretched in their first year, while others, less academically qualified, catch up. On the one hand, many university staff get little satisfaction from their teaching of basic first year content; on the other, there are teachers in schools and sixth-form colleges who both can and want to do so.

> Let bright students go beyond the constraints of A level

The answer seems obvious: let us enable bright and committed students to go beyond the constraints of A level at school and complete an MSc in three years rather than the normal four.

Such students would — either as an extension to their normal school work or through Saturday/holiday courses — follow a course, controlled and validated by the participating universities that would allow them — with some flexibility at the university end as well — to join the second year of an MSc programme in those universities. (They would, of course, be at liberty to apply to others.) Most of the teaching would take place in "link" schools — centres of excellence — though some advanced practical work would have to happen in the universities. Apart from our own two schools, there are several schools of academic distinction and with the necessary facilities that are very keen to act as such "link" schools and to run relevant courses outside normal school time.

Though these schools are all independent, this programme must not be the preserve of such schools; it must be firmly based in the community. All able and committed boys and girls from throughout the areas concerned must be enabled to take part; all the schools involved are determined to uphold that objective. Teaching would be done partly by volunteer staff at those schools, partly by staff from other schools, partly by university staff and partly, perhaps, by scientists in local industry.

In funding terms, such a scheme would cost far less than a year at university, so a contribution is therefore made to the university funding crisis. The students gain a year and more able students should be attracted into the sciences. The participating universities gain more able students and can ensure a greater coherence between what is done before and at university. The teachers gain the chance to do really stimulating training — and that could encourage more scientists of ability to teach in schools.

Would it put too much stress on pupils? Not if they are the right pupils. Many top students, particularly in the sciences, receive too little challenge and stimulus, not too much. If they are excited, we are convinced that they could thrive on such a course — and still achieve great things in sport, music, art and drama. We all too easily patronise our most able, instead of giving them a challenge equal to their skills.

Who pays the bill? This crucial question is, inevitably, harder to answer. We hope that we can gain support from a variety of sources, including the European Union, charitable foundations, the National Lottery, the end users of top science graduates such as industry, and any other agency that cares about nurturing our best brains. One thing about the scheme is clear; it is a way of saving money over present costings and a rare opportunity to deny one of the basic laws of nature by getting more from spending less. That might interest the DfEE.

Can it succeed without the support of Oxford and Cambridge? Yes. We have some of the best universities in the world, and Oxford and Cambridge are only two of them. The University of Newcastle is eager to push the scheme forward; other leading universities with a strong commitment to research have shown an active interest. We believe that producing a greater coherence between what is done at school and at university will be of interest to everyone in higher education. Indeed, leading academics in other subjects are also showing such an interest.

The relationship between schools and universities must be made more of a seamless garment if quality and economy are to be guaranteed in the education of our graduates. Schemes such as this should be seen as only the starting point for a revolution in the way we view and deliver higher education.

● *James Miller is Headmaster of the Newcastle Royal Grammar School and Dr Martin Stephen High Master of Manchester Grammar School.*

MIKE SEWELL/NEWSTEAM

Early start: Dr Martin Stephen, High Master of Manchester Grammar

And Tinky Winky is my dance teacher

The smell of the greasepaint has finally lured Tom Murphy

The Professor of Musical Theatre at the Royal Academy of Music gave me an intense look and ended my day-long audition: "Well, Tom, at your age some people are thinking of giving up, not starting."

Six months later, at the start of this term, I was sitting with 300 other freshers in the academy's full-size theatre, looking forward with some sense of trepidation to a year of singing, acting and tap-dancing in the musical theatre department. After a career as a journalist, I had become a mature student. So how come, sitting among the phalanx of fresh-faced teenagers, did going back to college feel like the most immature thing I had ever done?

My prospects of work in a West End show (or anywhere else) at the end of the course will depend on my competing with seasoned professionals as well as the thousands of hopefuls emerging from drama schools and singing academies (most of them to a life on the dole). So why do it?

Three years ago, a road accident gave me an intimation of mortality. While I was cycling in London a young driver careered into me from behind at 40mph, throwing me 20 yards and breaking my arm, leg and a shoulder. "You're lucky to be alive," I was told, by more than one doctor. Recognising suddenly that life was too short I decided to fulfil an ambition of my teenage years. *Carpe diem*.

The announcement that I was going back to "school" provoked an expression of horror on the face of my eight-year-old son, astonished that anyone should voluntarily choose such a course of action.

Choice, of course, is the key. Mature students are a pleasure to teach, tutors say, because they work hard, they are not just at college as the next thing to do after school. The accent on experience is reflected in the academy's staff, too. The course professor, Mary Hammond, is a voice consultant to the leading West End producers. The course leader, Karen Rabinowitz, is a freelance director and choreographer who does work at the Royal National Theatre. My singing teacher, Ken Woollam, still sees Elaine Paige and has also taught Glenn Close and Michael Ball. Best of all, my dance teacher is Tinky Winky in *Teletubbies*.

Murphy: midlife yen to be a song and dance man

If a change of career or career enhancement is your aim when going back to college, the key is to pick the right vocational course and make contact with anyone who can help when job-hunting begins.

The students, some of whom sport a few grey hairs, come from all walks of life and nations: New Zealand, Scandinavia, Germany and the United States. Most have taken other music courses, one has been working as an operatic coach. Another has had to miss some classes because she has a pressing six-nightly engagement elsewhere — she is appearing in *Miss Saigon* at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

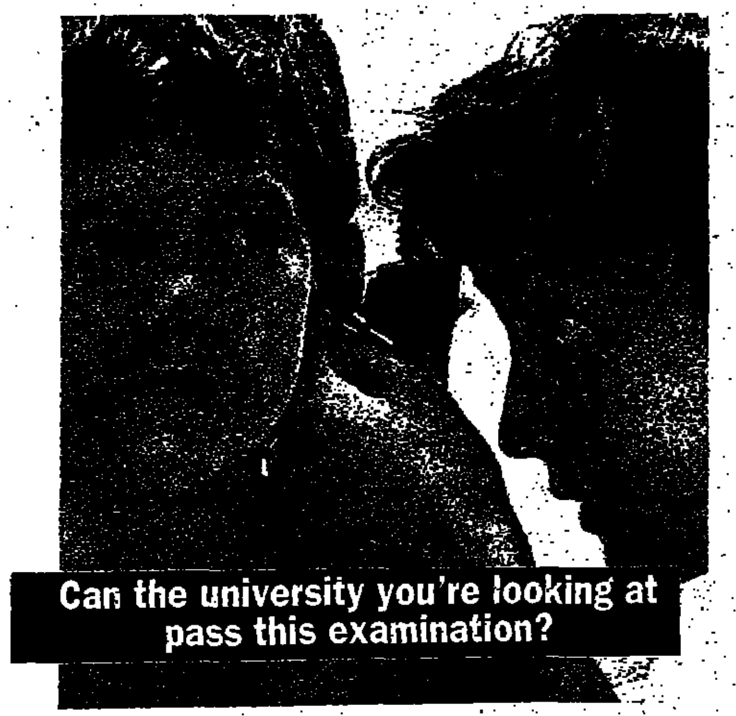
The higher education system is well-disposed to mature students but shows a rather superficial grip in relation to their needs. I have lost count of the number of forms I have had to fill in that demanded my parents' names and addresses; my Young Persons' Railcard came with the breathless offer of discounts on 18-30 holidays; when I asked about benefits for students who were parents a pleasant young man at the student union confessed that he "hadn't had much call to deal with such matters". My National Union of Students card is handy for discounts, though, but I haven't used it yet because I keep forgetting that I am a student.

Money is a fundamental worry. Music and drama students are basically on their own as far as funding goes, unless they have a sympathetic local authority, or can win a scholarship. A mature student who, like myself, has already taken an undergraduate degree and a master's has virtually no chance of local authority funding and is past the age when youthful promise will earn sympathy.

My course fees are £7,500 for the year. The compensation from my accident is paying for those. Other students have gained scholarships or awards from the charitable trusts that sometimes help. One student, at the age of 36, went back to the old standby: his mum is paying.

Career Development Loans available from a number of high street banks, including the Co-operative, Barclays, Royal Bank of Scotland and Clydesdale, can be used for educational purposes. The loan is underwritten by the Department for Education and Employment and interest and capital are repayable only after the course has been completed and earnings have reached a certain level. Mature students can also obtain loans from the Student Loan Company on a similar basis.

Most students have other strings to their bows — I am continuing work as a journalist. But this time next year the name you see at the head of this column will, I hope, be up in lights.



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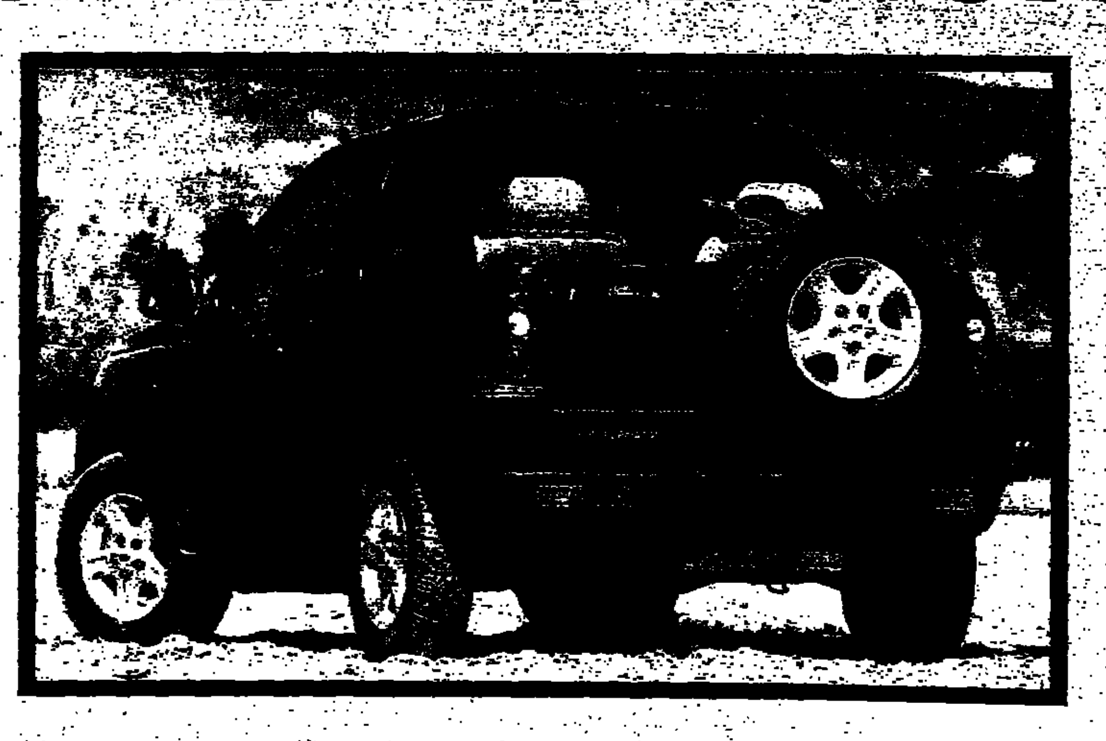

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CHANGING TIMES

RACING: SOFT GROUND THREATENS FRENCH CHALLENGE FOR DEWHURST STAKES

Dark clouds gather over Xaar

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

JULIAN HERBERT / ALLSPORT

The Puzzler, nearside, prevails in a driving finish to the Olivier Douieb Memorial Handicap at Newmarket yesterday

THE Dewhurst Stakes at Newmarket tomorrow is in danger of losing its billing as the best two-year-old race of the season because of doubts about the participation of Xaar — unofficially *the top-rated* juvenile in Europe.

The ground at Newmarket yesterday was officially good to soft and, unless it dries *sufficiently* in the next 24 hours so that the "soft" element of the going disappears, the Zafonic colt will almost certainly be pulled out.

The uncertainty prompted the Tote to suspend betting on the group one race and will have contributed to a sleepless night for Peter Player, chairman of Newmarket, as his racecourse prepares for its first Champions' Day. "It would be desperately disappointing *if Xaar doesn't run* because it looks to be the best Dewhurst for years."

Nevertheless, one can understand the caution being exercised by André Fabre and Khaled Abdulla, the trainer and owner of the Prix de la Salamandre winner. They remember only too well how Zafonic, the winner of the Dewhurst Stakes in 1992 before a memorable success in the 2,000 Guineas, failed on *his only run on soft ground* — and his most celebrated son is showing the same dislike of the mud.

"Anyone is entitled to make a mistake once, but we must not make the same mistake with his son," Grant Pritchard-Gordon, racing manager *to Khaled Abdulla, said yesterday.*

"André Fabre specifically worked the horse on softer ground on Monday and said afterwards he was not the same horse. We are anxious to run but we don't want to make *the same mistake we did* with Zafonic and run on anything like soft ground."

Although the times of yesterday's races suggested the ground was slow, Newmarket has deliberately saved a 30-yard wide strip of ground on the stands' side for tomor*row and Nick Lees, clerk of the* course, believes that will offer a faster surface.

While Newmarket needs a change in the going, backers are desperate for a change in fortune. The starting prices of the winners of the first six races *yesterday were 20-1 (120-1 on the Tote)*, 16-1, 20-1, 20-1, 16-1 and 33-1 (123-1). In the finale, Zugudi, the 100-1 outsider, threatened for a brief moment to continue the trend — but he could not peg back Santillana, a 6-1 chance having his first race for 537 days.

The most significant race of the afternoon involved the EBF Chesterton Maiden Stakes in which Albarahin, reputed to be Godolphin's Derby horse for next year, attracted plenty of support and was sent off the 7-4 *favourite. A good looking* Silver Hawk colt, he was hollering in the parade ring but showed no signs of inexperience on the racecourse.

Frankie Dettori had to tack over from a poor draw and looked set to win when taking up the running entering the *Dip only for Border Arrow to* swoop inside the final furlong and win going away by three lengths. Trained by Ian Balding and owned jointly by Bob Michaelson and Wafic Said, the Selkirk colt attractd a quote of 33-1 for the Derby, but *Balding is far from certain he* will stay 1½ miles.

That will not stop Michaelson dreaming of what may be during the long winter months. "He had been working nicely on the gallops with Ian's best and everyone supposedly had their best shots *here," he said. "We had hoped* he would run nicely into sixth or seventh — so this is a pleasant surprise."

The Glow-Worm can take chance to shine in nursery

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

NEWMARKET
CHANNEL 4

2.05: Lucayan Indian impressed when flooring an odds-on favourite, Elhabub, at Newcastle last time and is open to considerable improvement. The well-made Indian Ridge colt stayed on particularly strongly through the final furlong and will be suited by today's longer trip.

Abreeze had looked a useful newcomer when obliging at Sandown and would have sound claims if reproducing that form, but the Godolphin runner disappointed here two weeks ago, beating only one home. Sottvus won a maiden in Italy three weeks *ago but must give weight to his rivals.*

2.35: Despite having to shoulder a 7lb penalty for his group three victory at Goodwood, **Fahris** looks the safest option. Ben Hanbury's colt had Amid Albadu and Green Card behind that day and, on his latest start, failed to stay 1½ miles at Ascot. He won over course and distance in the spring and invariably *runs his race.* Green Card should be suited by returning to a shorter trip and looks the biggest threat.

3.10: Any more rain would suit the mud-loving Snow Kid, who finished a good second behind Wizard King at the Curragh last month *and races as though this* shorter trip should suit. By contrast, the speedy Tipsy Creek would not want the ground too soft as he attempts *six furlongs for the* first time. Unraced this term until last month, Ben Hanbury's sprinter put up a fine performance on his *second start here 15 days ago* and will go close.

However, **Bollin Joanne** is the form choice judged on all her runs this term and she is ideally drawn next door to Tipsy Creek.

3.45: Legend Of Love has a reasonable handicap mark after running three times over an inadequate six furlongs and looks sure to improve now that he steps up to a mile for the first time. Jeremy Glover, trainer of the Pursuit Of Love colt, has an excellent record at this track.

However, the best form on *show is possessed by* **The Glow-Worm**, who finished a good fourth behind Lend A Hand at Doncaster five weeks ago. Barry Hills's Doyoun *colt did not look* totally at ease on the fast ground that day and will be suited by this surface, having won on easy going at the July course here. In an open race, Ben Rinnes, Generosity and Noble Demand can also be given a sound chance.

Richard Evans

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ROYAL CASTLE
(1.30 Newmarket)

Next best: Lucayan Indian
(2.05 Newmarket)

NEWMARKET

THUNDERER

1.30 Mithak
2.05 Lucayan Indian
2.35 Fahris
3.10 **BOLLIN JOANNE** (nap)
3.45 Kim's Brave
4.15 Fairy Rock
4.45 Highly Pleased

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.45 **BEN RINNES.**

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.35 **FAHRIS** (nap). 3.45 Monsajem.

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT — DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING — SIS

1.30 EQUITY FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £6,212: 1m 6f) (14 runners)

101 (7) 411002 KILMA 17 (BF,F,G) (Sheikh A al-Maktoum) L Cumani 9-7 ... L Dettori 97
102 (2) 1354620 MITHAK 44 (F) (H al-Maktoum) B Hills 9-1 ... R Hills 99
103 (14) 3100005 ASSURED GAMBLE 17 (C,G) (P Head) C Brittain 8-13 ... M J Kinane [illegible]
104 (12) 2124405 THORNBY PARK 7 (D,S) (Appleby Lodge Stud) J Dunlop 8-12 ... R Ffrench (3) 97
105 (11) 0350003 MISTER PINK 9 (F,S) (C Sumner) R Johnson Houghton 8-11 ... J Reid 86
106 (3) 0331152 PRINCESS TOPAZ 20 (D,F,G) (S Crown) C Cyzer 8-11 ... K Darley 88
107 (1) -051041 ROYAL CASTLE 10 (D,F) (Lord Weinstock) W Hern 8-11 (5ex) ... T Sprake 95
108 (6) 362241 FOREIGN RULE 108 (D,S) (Mrs S McCarthy) J Jenkins 8-10 ... T Quinn 81
109 (10) 0-2102 RHEINBOLD 76 (S) (E Oliver) T Etherington 8-10 ... C Rutter 98
110 (4) 434332 DOVEDON STAR 4 (M Whatley) P Kelleway 8-7 ... K Fallon 92
111 (13) 3603-01 HURGILL DANCER 183 (G) (G Cooper) J Watts 8-4 ... J Carroll 88
112 (5) 00-0152 JAWAH 13 (D,S) (Sheik A Al Sabah) K Mahdi 8-2 ... Martin Dwyer 87
113 (8) 83200 ANNOUNCING 18 (V) (G Strawbridge) J Gosden 7-11 ... J Quinn 93
114 (9) 0-031 ZIBETH 23 (F) (J Mills) S Dow 7-10 ... P Doe (7) 86

Long handicap: Zibeth 7-3.

BETTING: 7-2 Kilma, 7-1 Thornby Park, Royal Castle, 8-1 Princess Topaz, 10-1 Assured Gamble, 12-1 others.

1996: FLAMANDS 8-9 L Dettori (11-4 fav) L Cumani 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

Kilma 2½l 2nd to Solo Mio in 1½m Newmarket handicap (good to firm) with Assured Gamble (4lb better off) 7¾l 5th. Mithak, raced around unfavoured inside rail, beaten a distance last of 15 to Forgie in handicap 1¾m York (soft). Mister Pink 8½l 3rd to Celestial Choir in 1½m York limited stakes (soft). *Princess Topaz 3½l 2nd to Jaseur in 2m Ascot* handicap (good) with Thornby Park (8lb better off) 9¼l 9th. Royal Castle beat Ordained 7l in 1¾m Redcar handicap (good to firm). Foreign Rule beat Thornby Park (8lb better off) 1¼l in 1¾m Haydock handicap (good to soft). Rheinbold 1¾l 2nd to Kileman in 1½m Thirsk handicap (good). Dovedon Star neck 2nd to Secret Ballot in 1½m Leicester handicap (soft). Hurgill Dancer beat Ikatania 5l in 1½m Ripon handicap (good). Jawah neck 2nd to Children's Choice in 1¾m Nottingham handicap (good to firm). Zibeth beat Seattle Swing ¾l in 1½m Goodwood handicap (good to firm) with Royal Castle (5lb better off) 1l 4th

JAWAH *showed* great promise on his first run in this country and can go one better

2.05 HOUGHTON CONDITIONS STAKES
C4
(2-Y-O: £6,454: 7f) (7 runners)

201 (2) 1 SOTTVUS 20 (D,G) (Scuderia Rencati Srl) L Cumani 9-3 ... J Weaver —
202 (1) 10 ABREEZE 14 (BF,D,G) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 9-1 ... L Dettori [illegible]
203 (3) 01 LUCAYAN INDIAN 18 (F) (Lucayan Stud) D Loder 9-1 ... K Fallon 104
204 (7) AL-FATEH (A Bahbahani) J Dunlop 8-12 ... T Quinn —
205 (5) 3 ASTROLOGER 27 (C Egginton) W Muir 8-12 ... J Reid 73
206 (4) LOUIS PHILIPPE (P Savill) J Gosden 8-12 ... G Hind —
207 (6) CLOUD CASTLE (S Manana) C Brittain 8-7 ... M J Kinane —

BETTING: 7-4 Abreeze, 3-1 Sottvus, 7-2 Lucayan Indian, 6-1 Louis Philippe, 12-1 Astrologer, 16-1 others.

1996: CRIMSON TIDE 8-12 M Hills (9-4 jt-fav) J Hills 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

Sottvus beat Sikeeting 1¾l in 7f San Siro maiden (good). Abreeze 9½l 7th to Haami in 7f Newmarket *listed stakes (good to firm).* Lucayan Indian beat Elhabub 2l in 6f Newcastle maiden (good to firm). Al-Fateh, Caerleon colt, out of Filia Ardross. Astrologer 3¾l 3rd to Poly Blue in 6f Newbury maiden (good to firm). Louis Philippe, El Gran Senor colt, half-brother to a sprint winner in Ireland. Cloud Castle, In The Wings filly, half-sister to high class Needle Gun and Luso.

LUCAYAN INDIAN is bred to appreciate this ground and should win again

2.35 BARING INTERNATIONAL DARLEY STAKES
C4
(Listed race: £11,169: 1m 1f) (7 runners)

301 (1) 1623314 FAHRIS 20 (CD,F,G) (H al-Maktoum) B Hanbury 3-9-3 ... R Hills 114
302 (3) 1-36642 PROPER BLUE 23 (C,F,G,S) (M Legge) T Mills 4-9-0 ... T Quinn 98
303 (6) 2442453 WEET-A-MINUTE 7 (F,G) (E Weetman) R Hollinshead 4-9-0 ... M J Kinane 108
304 (7) 1242514 AMID ALBADU 34 (B,F,G,S) (H al-Maktoum) J Dunlop 3-8-10 ... G Carter [illegible]
305 (5) -103428 GREEN CARD 34 (F) (P Cho) S Woods 3-8-10 ... J Reid 110
306 (2) 1-13030 MUSALSAL 28 (F,G) (M al-Maktoum) B Hills 3-8-10 ... M Hills 111
307 (4) -200324 FATEFULLY 13 (F,S) (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 4-8-9 ... L Dettori 107

BETTING: 9-4 Fahris, 4-1 Proper Blue, 9-2 Amid Albadu, Green Card, 8-1 Musalsal, 10-1 Fatefully, Weet-A-Minute.

1996: TARAWA 4-9-0 R Hughes (9-2) N Callaghan 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

Fahris 4½l 4th to Kingfisher Mill in 1½m Ascot group III stakes (good): previously beat Desert Story 6l in 1¼m Goodwood group III stakes (good) with Green Card (7lb better off) 6¾l 3rd and Amid Albadu (7lb better off) 6¾l 4th. Proper Blue ½l 2nd to Danish Rhapsody in 1¼m Goodwood listed stakes (good to firm). Weet-A-Minute 2¾l 3rd to Ghalib in 1m Ascot stakes (heavy). Musalsal 6l 6th to Crystal Hearted in 1¼m Frankfurt group II stakes (good). Fatefully 6¾l 4th to One So Wonderful in 1¼m Newmarket group II fillies stakes (good to firm).

FAHRIS failed to stay 1½ miles last time and will be hard to beat

RACELINE
0930 168+
COMMENTARY
NEWMARKET 101 201
CATTERICK 102 202
HEREFORD 103 203
IRISH 120 220
FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: S bin Suroor, 14 winners from 49 runners, 28.6%; J Glover, 3 from 17, 17.6%; D Loder, 15 from 90, 16.7%; J Gosden, 29 from 192, 15.1%; J Watts, 4 from 28, 14.3%; L Cumani, 21 from 166, 12.7%; E Dunlop, 5 from 41, 12.2%; C Wall, 3 from 25, 12.0%; B Hills, 24 from 209, 11.5%.

JOCKEYS: M Kinane, 18 winners from 98 rides, 18.4%; L Dettori, 53 from 363, 14.6%; R Hills, 24 from 186, 12.9%; T Sprake, 4 from 32, 12.5%; S Sanders, 7 from 58, 12.1%; K Fallon, 15 from 125, 12.0%; J Weaver, 14 from 117, 12.0%; M Hills, 28 from 263, 10.6%.

3.10 BEDFORD LODGE HOTEL BENTINCK STAKES
C4
(Listed race; £13,288: 6f) (17 runners)

401 (17) 0000440 CROFT POOL 6 (C,D,F,G) (Countrywide Classics Ltd) J Glover 6-9-5 ... G Carter 111
402 (5) 1544100 CRETAN GIFT 20 (B,D,F,G,S) (T Clarke) N Littmoden 6-9-2 ... J Weaver 116
403 (3) 2512030 MY BEST VALENTINE 20 (F,G,S) (Valentines) V Soane 7-8-12 ... R Cochrane 114
404 (4) 3101105 RIFFIF 19 (D,G) (Brooknight Guarding Ltd) R Ingram 4-8-12 ... D O'Donohoe 89
405 (8) 4063500 HEVER GOLF ROSE 12 (D,F,G,S) (Hever RC) T Naughton 6-8-11 ... T Quinn 98
406 (15) 6361600 OMAHA CITY 20 (F,G) (B Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 3-8-11 ... M Fenton 107
407 (7) 11102 SNOW KID 27 (S) (A Saeed) D Loder 3-8-11 ... L Dettori 99
408 (14) 55-1036 SUPERIOR PREMIUM 19 (S) (J Parsons) R Fahey 3-8-11 ... J Carroll 90
409 (2) 1162-03 TIPSY CREEK 15 (F) (H al-Maktoum) B Hanbury 3-8-11 ... R Hills 95
410 (11) -202100 ZA-IM 44 (D,G,S) (H al-Maktoum) B Hills 3-8-11 ... K Darley 109
411 (13) 1221123 ALMASI 14 (D,F,G,S) (Equusma Partnership) C Wall 5-8-7 ... S Sanders 113
412 (1) -132213 BOLLIN JOANNE 29 (BF,D,F,G) (Lady Westbrook) T Easterby 4-8-7 ... K Fallon [illegible]
413 (10) 1100-00 DARING DESTINY 20 (B,D,F,G) (Daring Destiny Plus) K Burke 6-8-7 ... D Holland 89
414 (9) -0510355 DIVINA LUNA 20 (F,G) (D Dear) J Hills 4-8-7 ... M Hills 98
415 (12) 6020214 PRENDS CA 14 (CD,F,G,S) (B Bull) W Muir 4-8-7 ... J Reid 101
416 (16) 3060115 WILDWOOD FLOWER 14 (D,F,G,S) (G H-Spink) R Hannon 4-8-7 ... Dane O'Neill 113
417 (6) 4312102 PLAISIR D'AMOUR 14 (D,F,G,S) (M Tabor) N Callaghan 3-8-6 ... M J Kinane 113

BETTING: 5-1 Snow Kid, 6-1 Bollin Joanne, 7-1 Wildwood Flower, Tipsy Creek, Plaisir D'Amour, 10-1 others.

1995: RUSSIAN REVIVAL 3-8-11 W R Swinburn (20-1) S bin Suroor 15 ran

Cretan Gift 6½l 10th to Elnadim in 6f Ascot group II stakes (good to firm) with My Best Valentine (4lb better off) 8¼l 12th and Daring Destiny (10lb better off) 18l last. Hever Golf Rose 3¼l 7th to Carmine Lake in 5f Longchamp group I stakes (good to firm). Snow Kid 2½l 2nd to Wizard King in 7f Curragh group III stakes (good to soft). Tipsy Creek ½l 3rd to Dashing Blue in 5f Newmarket listed stakes (good) with Croft Pool (1lb better off) 2¾l 4th. Bollin Joanne 2¾l 3rd to Everingperformance in 5f Newbury listed stakes (good to firm) with Croft Pool (2lb worse off) 3¼l 4th, Tipsy Creek (levels) 4¼l 7th and Hever Golf Rose (1lb worse off) 12l 15th. Plaisir D'Amour 1¾l 2nd to Bowden Rose in 6f Newmarket fillies handicap (good to firm) with Almasi (1lb worse off) 2¾l 3rd, Prends Ca (1lb worse off) 3¼l 4th and Wildwood Flower (13lb better off) 3¼l 5th.

BOLLIN JOANNE was beaten by a bad draw at Newbury, and can gain compensation

3.45 NGK SPARK PLUGS NURSERY HANDICAP
C4
(2-Y-O: £7,564: 1m) (28 runners)

501 (22) 312212 ALCONLEIGH 59 (BF,G,S) (J Abell) M Johnston 9-7 ... J Weaver 96
502 (15) 1363 THE GLOW-WORM 36 (S) (Mrs J Corbett) B Hills 9-1 ... M Hills 97
503 (23) 1455145 KIM'S BRAVE 28 (B,D,F,G) (J Sim) B Meehan 8-12 ... K Fallon 98
504 (19) 41504 BUZZ 28 (S) (G Reed) C Thornton 8-11 ... Dean McKeown 90
505 (4) 644204 AFTER THE RAIN 22 (K Abdulla) B Hills 8-11 ... D Holland 101
506 (25) 51 NAUTICAL STAR 69 (F) (M Wauchope) J Hills 8-11 ... M Henry (3) 85
507 (17) 2230212 RON'S PET 56 (G) (G Teo) R Hannon 8-11 ... Dane O'Neill 86
508 (11) 31 NEBL 30 (D,F) (H al-Maktoum) W Hern 8-11 ... R Hills 92
509 (8) 4415 MONSAJEM 36 (BF,D,S) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 8-10 ... L Dettori 94
510 (1) 4011020 MASTER MAC 28 (F,S) (C Pader) R Akehurst 8-9 ... S Sanders 95
511 (12) 001002 BEN RINNES 43 (S) (A Pye-Jeary) R Johnson Houghton 8-8 ... A Daly (3) [illegible]
512 (3) 0420 TENSILE 36 (Mrs V Shelton) L Cumani 8-8 ... K Darley 96
513 (18) 61 MISTER BENJAMIN 39 (Mrs J Chey) S Woods 8-7 ... N Day 89
514 (10) 0401 NOBLE DEMAND 43 (D,S) (Mrs A Iles) Mrs J Ramsden 8-7 ... D O'Donohoe 91
515 (13) 443 CANADIAN PUZZLER 19 (Maple Leafs) P Harris 8-6 ... J Reid 87
516 (2) 304 LEGEND OF LOVE 63 (S Beach) J Glover 8-6 ... G Carter 81
517 (16) 61 GENEROSITY 46 (D,G) (H R H Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 8-5 ... T Quinn 90
518 (5) 0036 ROBORANT 56 (Lord Walsham) J Dunlop 8-5 ... M J Kinane 88
519 (20) 31004 MINETTA 56 (F) (Mrs G Rowland-Clark) M Bell 8-5 ... M Fenton 90
520 (21) 065 LORD WARFORD 20 (P Richardson) G Balding 8-1 ... S Drowne 80
521 (28) 3156 ZENA 20 (B,F) (K Yong) W Jarvis 8-0 ... J Quinn 102
522 (24) 34650 AL'S FELLA 38 (Mrs C Ranbury) P Cole 7-12 ... C Rutter 94
523 (14) 5501 BLUE DESERT 9 (D,G) (G Lewis) G Lewis 7-12 (5ex) ... R Ffrench (3) 90
524 (27) 0543025 IRON MOUNTAIN 12 (Gallagher Equine Ltd) N Callaghan 7-11 ... P Doe (7) 92
525 (7) 3030 MOOTHYEB 45 (B) (H al-Maktoum) N Graham 7-11 ... J Lowe 101
526 (6) 000 PETANE 59 (A Robinson) J Arnold 7-10 ... Martin Dwyer 77
527 (26) 3000333 LEOFRIC 19 (Keen Racing) M Pelgiase 7-10 ... N Adams 87
528 (9) 000 DUTCH LAD 38 (S Dear) M Tompkins 7-10 ... D Wright 79

Long handicap: Petane 7-9, Leofric 7-9, Dutch Lad 7-6.

BETTING: 6-1 Noble Demand, 8-1 Ron's Pet, Roborant, 10-1 Monsajem, Minetta, 12-1 The Glow-Worm, 14-1 others

1996: BOLD WORDS 9-5 M Hills (8-1) E Dunlop 17 ran

Alconleigh 3l 2nd to Optimistic in 7f York nursery (good) with Leofric (3lb better off) 12l 7th. The Glow-Worm 4l 3rd to Lend A Hand in 1m Doncaster nursery (good to firm) with Kim's Brave (3lb better off) 5½l 4th, Monsajem (same terms) 7l 5th, Tensile (same terms) 15th, After The Rain 17th and Buzz 18th. After The Rain 3l 4th 13 to Close Up in 1m Pontefract maiden (good to firm). Nautical Star beat Lincolnshire 2½l in 7f Ayr maiden (good to firm). Ron's Pet ½l 2nd to Outsourcing in 1m Newmarket nursery (good) with Minetta (same terms) ½l 4th, Kim's Brave (6lb worse off) 1½l 5th and Roborant (same terms) 1¾l 6th. Nebl beat Sahara 2¾l in 1m Sandown maiden (good to firm). *Mister Benjamin beat Flying Bold 3l in 7f Southwell maiden (7f, AW). Noble* Demand beat Ben Rinnes (4lb better off) 2l in 1m York nursery (soft). Canadian Puzzler 4l 3rd to Giveaway in 1m Nottingham maiden (good). Generosity beat Gift Of Gold neck in 1m Hamilton maiden (good). Blue Desert beat Royal Ground 8l in 1m Nottingham seller (good).

BEN RINNES, well suited by soft ground, should go well in an open contest

4.15 EBF SNAILWELL MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £6,391: 6f) (20 runners)

601 (1) 6 DILKUSHA 95 (T Painting) B Meehan 9-0 ... D Holland 75
602 (16) 0 EIFFEL TIGER 19 (Mrs Joan Marlow) Bob Jones 9-0 ... N Day —
603 (14) 6 EMPIRE STATE 15 (Miss D Marson) M Tompkins 9-0 ... M Henry (3) 80
604 (10) 0 GOLDEN REPRIMAND 76 (G Teo) R Hannon 9-0 ... M J Kinane 75
605 (2) MAGIC MORNING (Mrs R Brown) W Musson 9-0 ... K Fallon —
606 (18) 00 MY TYSON 15 (H Al-Mutawa) K Mahdi 9-0 ... Martin Dwyer 54
607 (8) 00 NAUTICAL WARNING 29 (B Schmidt-Bodner) M Tompkins 9-0 ... D Biggs 50
608 (11) RUSH OFF (R Tooth) R Akehurst 9-0 ... J Weaver —
609 (6) 23 SHART 28 (H al-Maktoum) J Gosden 9-0 ... R Hills 98
610 (3) *SOCIETY KING (R Saber) J Banks 9-0* ... J Quinn —
611 (5) SPLENDID ISOLATION (Lord De La Warr) L Cumani 9-0 ... K Darley —
612 (20) 6 SURPRISE PRESENT 101 (M Suhail) R Hannon 9-0 ... Dane O'Neill 80
613 (7) 62 ATUF 20 (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 8-9 ... L Dettori [illegible]
614 (19) FAIRY ROCK (J Grant) B Hills 8-9 ... M Hills —
615 (9) HETRA HEIGHTS (K L West) W Musson 8-9 ... R Cochrane —
616 (4) *JOCASTA (C Hughes) C Wall 8-9* ... J Reid —
617 (15) RIBBLESDALE (P Cooper (S Abbott Racing)) J Dunlop 8-9 ... T Quinn —
618 (12) SWING ALONG (W Bowill) C Wall 8-9 ... S Sanders —
619 (17) TOFFOLUX (G C Neale) H Collingridge 8-9 ... D O'Shea —
620 (13) 40 TOUCHANOVA 90 (Mrs J Mitchell) A Hide 8-9 ... G Milligan (5) 61

BETTING: 9-4 Atuf, 5-1 Shart, 7-1 Golden Reprimand, Splendid Isolation, 8-1 Fairy Rock, 10-1 others.

1996: BAKED ALASKA 8-9 D Harrison (33-1) A Stewart 22 ran

Dilkusha 8¼l 6th to Iceband in 6f Goodwood maiden (good). Golden Reprimand 9¼l 8th to Tamarisk in 6f Goodwood maiden (good to firm). Nautical Warning 18l 9th to Arctic Air in 7f Ayr maiden (good to soft). Shart 8½l 3rd to Fleetwood in 7f Haydock maiden (good). Splendid *Isolation, Hermitage colt, first foal of an unraced mare. Surprise Present 17l 8th to Craigsteel in 7f* Newmarket maiden (good). Atuf neck 2nd to Wenda in 6f Ascot stakes (good to firm). Fairy Rock, Fairy King filly, half-sister to useful flat and hurdles winner Home Counties. Ribblesdale, Northern Park filly, half-sister to 7f winner, Tajdid.

ATUF has a fine chance to record her first success

4.45 NEWMARKET CHALLENGE CUP (2-Y-O: 7f) (3 runners)

1 (3) 0 DOG WATCH 13 (Lord Harrington) J Gosden 9-0 ... L Dettori 74
2 (1) 0030 GREEN JACKET 10 (I Cameron) J Dunlop 9-0 ... G Carter [illegible]
3 (2) HIGHLY PLEASED (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 9-0 ... K Fallon —

BETTING: 5-4 Green Jacket, 13-8 Dog Watch, 3-1 Highly Pleased.

1996: SQUEAK 8-9 L Dettori (2-5 fav) J Gosden 3 ran

Dog Watch 6¾l 9th to Sky Rocket in 6f Nottingham maiden (good to firm). Green Jacket 18l 10th to Carry The Flag in 1m Warwick nursery (good to firm). Highly Pleased, Hansel colt, first foal.

DOG WATCH is taken to win a poor race

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Newmarket

Going: good (good to soft in straight)

1.30 (7f) 1, Mari-Ela (C Lowther, 20-1); 2, Tom Dougal (33-1); 3, Arm And A Leg (20-1). Madame Jones 6-1 fav. 29 ran. NR: Supercharl. Nk, nk. J Arnold. Tote: £120.60; £25.90, £11.50, £5.80. DF: £982.50. Trio: not won (pool of £666.39 carried forward to 3.45 Newmarket today). CSF: £556.66.

2.05 (1m 4f) 1, Ihtiyati (R Hills, 16-1); 2, Dance So Suite (10-1); 3, Solo Mio (7-1 fav); 4, Heritage (15-2). 20 ran. Hd, nk. J Dunlop. Tote: £20.90; £4.50, £2.90, £2.20, £2.20. DF: £249.80. Trio: £333.60. CSF: £152.16. Tricast: £1,150.30.

2.35 (6f) 1, Demolition Jo (J F Egan, 20-1); 2, The Downtown Fox (25-1); 3, Inchalong (5-1); 4, *Persiano (4-1 fav). 17 ran. NR:* Dernier Croise. 1l, ¾l. P Evans. Tote: £25.80; £4.00, £3.50, £1.50, £2.00. DF: £300.70. Trio: £465.00. CSF: £423.70. Tricast: £2,727.28.

3.10 (5f) 1, The Puzzler (M Hills, 20-1); 2, The Gay Fox (11-1); 3, Anselman (8-1); 4, Crofters Ceilidh (14-1). Gaelic Storm 9-2 fav. 18 ran. Sh hd, hd. B Hills. Tote: £14.50; £4.80, £2.20, £2.60, £4.40. DF: £137.80. Trio: £722.90. CSF: £207.52. Tricast: £1,829.87.

3.40 (1m) 1, Jay-Owe-Two (D McKeown, 16-1); 2, Comanche Companion (33-1); 3, Consort (8-1); 4, Cybertechnology (25-1). Master Beveled and Mount Holly 6-1 jt-favs. 30 ran. Nk, ¾l. R Whitaker. Tote: £22.20; £4.80, £8.20, £2.50, £5.80. DF: £158.80. CSF: £441.83. Tricast: £4,172.67. Trio: £3,078.60 (part won. Pool of £2,601.69 carried forward to 3.45 Newmarket today).

4.15 (1m) 1, Border Arrow (R Cochrane, 33-1); 2, Albarahin (7-4 fav); 3, Bering Gifts (10-1). 22 ran. NR: Diwwayshan. 3l, 3½l. I Balding. Tote: £124.60; £14.90, £1.70, £2.90. DF: £298.40. Trio: £245.90. CSF: £87.07.

4.50 (1m 2f) 1, Santillana (L Dettori, 6-1); 2, Zugudi (100-1); 3, Sandmoor Chambray (7-2). Silverani 7-4 fav. 7 ran. ¾l, 1½l. J Gosden. Tote: £4.20; £2.60, £6.40. DF: £116.30. CSF: £248.12.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £20,795.50 carried forward to Newmarket today).
Placepot: £7,336.30. Quadpot: £88.10.

Catterick

Going: soft, good to soft in places

2.10 (5f) 1, Refined (K Darley, 2-1 fav); 2, Carol Singer (8-1); 3, Summerseat (12-1). 10 ran. 3l, 5l. L Cumani. Tote: £2.60; £1.40, £2.50, £3.80. DF: £9.00. Trio: £61.70. CSF: £18.48. Tricast: £150.14.

2.45 (5f 212yd) 1, Robin Goodfellow (J Carroll, 5-1); 2, Easter Ogil (3-1); 3, Implicitly (8-1). Palmetto Bay 9-4 fav. 8 ran. NR: Pelgro. 2½l, 2½l. P Walwyn. Tote: £7.40; £1.20, £1.60, £2.00. DF: £9.20. Trio: £38.00. CSF: £18.61.

3.20 (1m 3f 214yd) 1, Alakdar (S Whitworth, 9-1); 2, Back Row (4-1); 3, Arletty (13-2). Pradesh 2-1 fav. 12 ran. 8l, 2l. A Stewart. Tote: £10.20; £2.50, £1.70, £2.70. DF: £11.90. Trio: £55.30. CSF: £43.00.

3.50 (1m 7f 177yd) 1, Jazz Track (R Havlin, 9-2); 2, Sad Mad Bad (10-1); 3, Robbo (4-1). Vicki Romara 6-4 fav. 6 ran. NR: Spowitz. Hd, 1½l. P Chapple-Hyam. Tote: £5.70; £3.00, £1.90. DF: £19.40. CSF: £43.03.

4.25 (7f) 1, Shiouq (K Darley, 6-5 fav); 2, Sharp Cracker (10-1); 3, La Tiziana (7-2). 13 ran. Sh hd, 2½l. B Hills. Tote: £2.00; £1.10, £2.90, £2.00. DF: £9.20. Trio: £6.80. CSF: £14.72.

5.00 (1m 3f 214yd) 1, Whitley Grange Boy (L Charnock, 20-1); 2, Pietro Bembo (14-1); 3, *House Of Dreams (7-1); 4, Riccarton* (6-1). Gold Desire 11-2 jt-fav. 18 ran. 5l, 2l. J Eyre. Tote: £16.10; £2.60, £2.50, £1.90, £1.50. DF: £319.80. Trio: £332.40. CSF: £267.98. Tricast: £2,002.02.

5.30 (5f 212yd) 1, Obsessed (K Darley, 8-11 fav); 2, Mitch Passi (7-2); 3, Polish Pilot (20-1). 9 ran. Sh hd, 7l. M Stoute. Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £1.40, £3.10. DF: £3.10. CSF: £3.51. Trio: £13.60.

Placepot: £434.20. Quadpot: £55.30.

Taunton

Going: good to firm

1.45 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Gray Pastel (A P McCoy, 6-1); 2, Southern Chief (10-1); 3, Aficionado (9-2). 10 ran. NR: Aquavita. 8l, 3l. M Pipe. Tote: £4.90; £1.50, £3.40, £1.70. DF: £26.20. CSF: £55.65.

2.20 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Northern Drums (A P McCoy, 11-8 fav); 2, Woodstock Wanderer (7-1); 3, Bright Eclipse (33-1). 11 ran. 2l, nk. M Pipe. Tote: £2.10; £1.70, £1.90, £3.50. DF: £8.10. Trio: £192.60. CSF: £10.22. Tricast: £206.22.

2.55 (3m ch) 1, Danger Baby (A P McCoy, Evens fav); 2, Decyborg (11-2); 3, Abavard (100-30). 6 ran. 11l, 19l. P Bowen. Tote: £1.90; £1.60, £2.80. DF: £2.90. CSF: £6.07.

3.30 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Lonicera (A Thornton, 10-1); 2, Indian Serenade (33-1); 3, Infamous (6-5 fav). 13 ran. NR: Royal Action. 3l, 5l. R Alner. Tote: £13.60; £3.10, £20.40, £1.20. DF: £772.90. CSF: £289.97. Trio: £241.80 (part won. Pool of £238.45 carried forward to 3.45 Newmarket today).

4.00 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, Pride Of Kashmir (G Tormey, 7-2); 2, Courageous Knight (7-1); 3, Sport Of Fools (14-1). Ultimate Smoothie 11-8 fav. 8 ran. 1¼l, 1¼l. P Hobbs. Tote: £2.90; £1.60, £1.60, £2.60. DF: £10.50. CSF: £24.30. Tricast: £274.15.

4.35 (2m 110yd ch) 1, Green Green Desert (A Maguire, 6-4 fav); 2, Stanmore (9-2); 3, All Clear (13-2). 6 ran. ½l, 30l. O Sherwood. Tote: £2.50; £1.80, £2.00. DF: £6.50. CSF: £8.07.

5.10 (2m 1f flat) 1, Mike Equal (A P McCoy, 6-4 fav); 2, Latin Mistress (2-1); 3, Noble Athlete (11-2). 9 ran. NR: Door To Door. 8l, 5l. M Pipe. Tote: £2.80; £1.40, £1.10, £1.40. DF: £3.80. Trio: £5.00. CSF: £4.66.

Placepot: £28.70. Quadpot: £5.70.

CATTERICK

THUNDERER

2.10 Marske Machine. 2.45 Swan Hunter. 3.20 Hit The Spot. 3.55 White Emir. 4.25 Taufan Boy. 4.55 *Territory. 5.25 Allinson's Mate.*

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.20 Odette.

GOING: SOFT (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) — SIS
DRAW: 5F-7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.10 RICHMONDSHIRE NURSERY HANDICAP
(2-Y-O: £3,460: 7f) (17 runners)

1 (15) 041 MISALLIANCE 16 (D,F) C Wall 9-7 ... G Duffield 85
2 (10) 6005 DEECEEBEE 3 (S) W Storey 9-7 ... O Pears 80
3 (7) 004 RUBAMMA 16 P Walwyn 9-6 ... R Perham 81
4 (9) 1000 PRINCESS NATALIE 13 (S) M W Easterby 9-3 ... T Lucas 78
5 (17) 0330 RESPOND 77 G L Moore 9-1 ... A Clark 75
6 (14) 6642 PRINCE ASHLEIGH 4 P Haslam 9-1 ... C Lowther (5) 90
7 (1) 0110 SUGGEST 53 (D,F,G) W Storey 8-12 ... J Fanning 91
8 (4) 000 LARAMANIA 20 P Evans 8-11 ... J F Egan 75
9 (2) 020 RAY OF SUNSHINE 13 Mrs J Ramsden 8-11 ... J Fortune 92
10 (13) 865 ROYAL INTERVIEW 14 M Channon 8-9 ... A Culhane 79
11 (18) 5346 MISS SALSA DANCER 28 D Smith 8-7 ... P Fessey (3) 81
12 (6) 3013 PETARA 11 (V,CD,F) J Wainwright 8-7 ... F Lynch 81
13 (8) 0502 *COUNSEL 16 C Brittain 8-4 ... R Mullen (5)* 60
14 (5) 1306 SANDMOOR TARTAN 45 (F) T Easterby 8-4 ... L Charnock 85
15 (11) 1414 MARSKE MACHINE 20 (B,D,S) N Tinkler 8-3 ... Kim Tinkler [illegible]
16 (3) 100 FAST FRANC 45 (S) S C Williams 8-3 ... T Williams 94
17 (12) 4060 BARRELBIO 58 J J O'Neill 8-1 ... G Bardwell 77

6-1 Prince Ashleigh, 7-1 Misalliance, 8-1 Ray Of Sunshine, Counsel, 10-1 *Rubamma, Petara, Marske Machine, 12-1 others.*

2.45 PLODMIRE WOOD APPRENTICE CLAIMING STAKES (£2,229: 1m 3f 214yd) (12)

1 (4) 0400 NIGHT CITY 13 (S) K Burke 6-9-4 ... D Sweeney [illegible]
2 (7) 52-0 HILLZAH 38 (D,F,G,S) R Bastiman 9-9-3 ... H Bastiman (3) —
3 (2) 6-00 RAASED 21 (V,G) F Watson 5-8-12 ... P Fessey —
4 (6) 0006 JIMJAREER 10 J H Wilson 4-8-11 ... Angela Hartley (7) 39
5 (8) 00-0 OAKBURY 19 Miss L Siddall 5-8-11 ... T Siddall (5) 37
6 (11) 2051 SWAN HUNTER 3 (D,G,S) D Cosgrove 4-8-11 ... R Mullen (3) 61
7 (10) 5 SPECULATIVE 4 (BF) W Storey 3-8-9 ... Carolyn Bales (7) 36
8 (9) 0035 WELCOME LU 10 (C,F,G,S) J L Harris 4-8-8 ... P P Murphy 40
9 (3) 0-00 PEEP O DAY 46 (V,CD,G,S) J Eyre 6-8-7 ... S Buckley (7) 50
10 (5) 0040 STOLEN MUSIC 17J R Barr 4-8-6 ... Iona Wands (5) 42
11 (12) 6501 ZIGGY'S VIOLA 27 (C,F) Mrs M Reveley 3-8-2 ... A Nicholls (7) 63
12 (1) 5 ALL GIRLS FORGET 21 J Bethell 3-7-13 ... C Lowther (5) 40

15-8 Swan Hunter, 7-2 Ziggy's Viola, 7-1 Hillzah, 8-1 Welcome Lu, 10-1 Peep O Day, 12-1 Speculative, Stolen Music, 14-1 others.

3.20 EBF PROSPECT HILL MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,672: 5f) (14)

1 (5) 0 ANSTAND 42 Mrs J Ramsden 9-0 ... J Fortune 58
2 (10) 0 ASHANGEM 121 Bob Jones 9-0 ... M Wigham —
3 (9) 0 BEST OF OUR DAYS 13 C Thornton 9-0 ... E Johnson —
4 (6) 00 HOUSE ON FIRE 14 J Berry 9-0 ... C Lowther (5) 60
5 (11) 2 KILLARNEY JAZZ 11 J Wharton 9-0 ... T Lucas [illegible]
6 (2) 00 THE OTHER RISK 18 D Nolan 9-0 ... P Fessey (3) —
7 (7) 00R ARJAN 20 J Berry 8-9 ... T E Durcan (3) 54
8 (13) HIT THE SPOT W Haggas 8-9 ... F Lynch —
9 (3) 233 ODETTE 9 M Prescott 8-9 ... G Duffield 67
10 (14) SABLE CLOAK J L Harris 8-9 ... L Charnock —
11 (4) 0 SCURRILOUS 9 M Bell 8-9 ... A Culhane —
12 (8) SHOCKER W Haggas 8-9 ... Jo Hunnam (5) —
13 (12) -050 ST LUCIA 9 (B) B Meehan 8-9 ... M Tebbutt 57
14 (1) 00 WESTCOURT RUBY 20 M W Easterby 8-9 ... G Parkin (3) 60

5-4 Odette, 13-2 Hit The Spot, 7-1 Anstand, St Lucia, 8-1 Scurrilous, Shocker, 10-1 Killarney Jazz, Arjan, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: B Hills, 20 winners from 55 runners, 36.4%; P Walwyn, 3 from 10, 30.0%; B Palling, 4 from 15, 26.7%; M Channon, 12 from 47, 25.5%; C Wall, 5 from 25, 20.0%; N Tinkler, 6 from 32, 18.8%; Mrs M Reveley, 20 from 112, 17.9%.

JOCKEYS: J Egan, 7 winners from 28 rides, 25.0%; F Lynch, 7 from 33, 21.2%; J Fortune, 19 from 129, 14.7%; O Pears, 6 from 50, 12.0%; G Duffield, 8 from 70, 11.4%; F Norton, 4 from 35, 11.4%; Alex Greaves, 6 from 55, 10.9%.

3.55 CROW HOLE BANK HANDICAP
(£4,003: 5f) (20)

1 (10) 0300 TREASURE TOUCH 28 (D,F,S) D Nicholls 3-10-0 ... Alex Greaves 80
2 (16) 2521 DOMINANT AIR 15 (D,F,G) M Prescott 3-9-13 ... G Duffield 92
3 (9) 6030 LADY SHERIFF 18 (B,CD,F,G) M W Easterby 6-9-12 ... T Lucas 91
4 (7) 0544 KIRA 20 (BF,D,F,G) J Eyre 7-9-10 ... O Pears 96
5 (12) 0033 SQUIRE CORRIE 16 (D,G) D Chapman 5-9-10 ... A Culhane 91
6 (17) 2100 GORETSKI 16 (CD,F,G,S) N Tinkler 4-9-8 ... L Charnock 90
7 (5) 1010 JUST BOB 9 (D,F,G,S) S Kettlewell 8-9-6 ... J Fortune 87
8 (3) 6800 PALACEGATE TOUCH 21 (B,CD,F,G,S) J Berry 7-9-3 ... C Lowther (5) 84
9 (4) 2440 *BALLYMOTE 15 (D,F) J Berry 3-9-2 ... P Fessey (3)* 83
10 (18) 0000 PRIDE OF BRIXTON 17 (D,G) C Thornton 4-9-1 ... Paul Eddery 90
11 (15) 2000 WHITE EMIR 9 (B,D,F,G,S) B Meehan 4-9-1 ... M Tebbutt 91
12 (6) 4610 BEAU VENTURE 9 (D,F,G,S) B Palling 9-8-13 ... D Sweeney (3) 93
13 (13) 2053 PLEASURE TIME 9 (V,D,F,G) C Smith 4-8-5 ... J Tate [98]
14 (11) 0813 PASSIONATTI 15 (C,G) S Gollings 3-8-5 ... T Williams 87
15 (8) -004 *MILETRIAN REFURB 205 (D,G,S) M Channon 4-8-1* ... A Mackay 84
16 (14) 0600 LENNOX LEWIS 21 (D,F) D Nicholls 5-7-12 ... A Nicholls (7) 77
17 (19) 0052 POLLY GOLIGHTLY 9 (B,D,F) M Blanshard 4-7-11 ... Dale Gibson 91
18 (20) 2505 PALLIUM 3 (B,D,F,G) D Nolan 9-7-10 ... N Kennedy 90
19 (1) 0206 FLYING HAROLD 12 (F) M Channon 4-7-10 ... F Norton 86
20 (2) 4000 *KEEN TO PLEASE 109 (D,G) J Parkes 3-7-10 ... G Bardwell* 69

6-1 Dominant Air, 7-1 Kira, 8-1 Squire Corrie, Just Bob, Polly Golightly, 10-1 Pleasure Time, Passionatti, 12-1 others.

4.25 THIEVES GILL LIMITED STAKES
(£2,889: 1m 5f 175yd) (15)

1 (13) 0601 REX MUNDI 11 (F) P Evans 5-9-8 ... J F Egan 70
2 (7) 4-46 BRECON 13J W Muir 4-9-4 ... C Lowther (5) 58
3 (6) /F0- CLAIRESWAN 187J (F) M Tompkins 5-9-4 ... Dale Gibson —
4 (12) 0044 TAUFAN BOY 13 P Harris 4-9-4 ... A Clark 77
5 (5) 40-0 UNCLE DOUG 27 (G,S) Mrs M Reveley 6-9-4 ... A Culhane 60
6 (1) 6006 ROSE OF GLENN 16 (CD,F,G) B Palling 6-9-3 ... D Sweeney (3) 58
7 (2) 3450 FINESTATETOBEIN 20 (V) F Watson 4-9-1 ... P Fessey (3) 42
8 (3) 1/0/ GINGER FLOWER 1378 G Kelly 8-9-1 ... G Parkin (3) —
9 (8) 2060 HAVANA HEIGHTS 11 (CD,F) J Eyre 4-9-1 ... S Buckley (7) 50
10 (11) 5002 DRIFT 16 M Prescott 3-8-9 ... G Duffield 78
11 (14) 0000 *SEFTON BLAKE 42 M Meagher 3-8-9 ... F Norton* 51
12 (9) 5400 SUN ALERT 25 (D,F) M Polglase 3-8-8 ... J Tate [91]
13 (4) 245 AEOLINA 12 S Kettlewell 3-8-6 ... J Fortune 60
14 (10) 1264 GOOD REPUTATION 27 B Hills 3-8-6 ... Paul Eddery 72
15 (15) 602 PRILUKI 21 C Brittain 3-8-6 ... R Mullen (5) 64

7-2 Drift, 5-1 Rex Mundi, 6-1 Taufan Boy, 7-1 Priluki, 8-1 Good Reputation, 10-1 Havana Heights, Sun Alert, 14-1 others.

4.55 SOUR BECK CONDITIONS STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,178: 5f) (6)

1 (1) 3410 WHISKY MACK 76 (BF,S) R Hannon 9-3 ... W J O'Connor 95
2 (6) 2051 PRIVATE SEAL 16 (D,F) G L Moore 9-1 ... A Clark 84
3 (3) 0212 ARIAN DA 21 (D,F) B Palling 8-12 ... J Fortune [98]
4 (5) 32 TERRITORY 9 G Lewis 8-11 ... Paul Eddery 91
5 (2) 2156 HAPPY DAYS AGAIN 31 (B,BF,D,G) J Wharton 8-10 ... R Mullen (5) 95
6 (4) 5041 RARE INDIGO 13 (D) J Berry 8-10 ... C Lowther (5) 77

15-8 Territory, 3-1 Arian Da, 4-1 Whisky Mack, 8-1 Private Seal, Happy Days Again, Rare Indigo

5.25 CLOSE OF PLAY HANDICAP
(£3,772: 7f) (17)

1 (8) P01 SMOKEY FROM CAPLAW 10 (D,F,G) J J O'Neill 3-10-0 (6ex) ... C Lowther (5) 60
2 (2) 3500 HALOWING 38 (F) J G Smyth-Osbourne 3-9-12 ... G Duffield 61
3 (17) 1164 RYMER'S RASCAL 13 (CD,F,S) E Alston 5-9-10 ... J F Egan 66
4 (9) -000 *SCHARNHORST 18 (D,F,S) A Dickman 5-9-10 ... A Mackay* 80
5 (1) 6516 DEEPLY VALE 43 (D,F,S) G L Moore 6-9-9 ... M Wigham 59
6 (15) 4003 DEPRECIATE 45 (G) C James 4-9-8 ... T Lucas 54
7 (13) 0-43 FINARTS BAY 18 Mrs J Cecil 3-9-8 ... J Fortune 49
8 (3) 5000 STYLISH WAYS 9 (G,S) J Pearce 5-9-7 ... G Bardwell 84
9 (10) 0303 MUKHLLES 21 Bob Jones 4-9-7 ... F Norton [81]
10 (6) 3023 NIGHT OF GLASS 21 (B,F) J Eyre 4-9-6 ... M Gallagher 76
11 (5) 0000 *ANTONIAS MELODY 91 (D,G,S) S Bowring 4-9-6* ... C Teague (3) 64
12 (11) 1402 KASS ALHAWA 9 (CD,F,G) D Chapman 4-9-5 ... A Culhane 78
13 (14) 0640 ALLINSON'S MATE 30 (B,CD,F,G,S) T Barron 9-9-4 ... Victoria Appleby (7) 74
14 (16) 5000 MYSTIQUE AIR 10 (CD,G) E Weymes 3-9-2 ... P Fessey (3) 71
15 (4) 0056 *MUSCATANA 10 (BF,CD,G) B Hills 3-9-0 ... Paul Eddery* 69
16 (7) 4600 GIPSY PRINCESS 21 (CD,F) M W Easterby 3-8-11 ... G Parkin (3) 77
17 (12) 5005 BARRACK YARD 27 (BF,D) A Streeter 4-8-9 ... S Whitworth 66

6-1 Rymer's Rascal, 7-1 Smokey From Caplaw, 8-1 Night Of Glass, 10-1 Depreciate, Mukhlles, Kass Alhawa, Muscatana, 12-1 others.

HEREFORD

THUNDERER

1.45 Brownes Hill Lad. 2.20 French Buck. 2.55 Mrs Drummond. 3.30 Odell. 4.05 Mr Strong Gale. 4.35 Darakshan.

GOING: GOOD — SIS

1.45 EBF NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,360: 2m 1f) (10 runners)

1 20-1 BROWNES HILL LAD 20 (D,G,S) R O'Sullivan 5-11-5 ... A P McCoy
2 00-6 ABOVE SUSPICION 24 C James 5-11-0 ... J R Kavanagh
3 60U- BANK AVENUE 224 M Pitman 6-11-0 ... W Marston
4 6/ DICKYVEARNCOMBE 768 A Barrow 5-11-0 ... Mr O McPhail (7)
5 666- HOMME DE FER 187 K Bailey 5-11-0 ... N Williamson
6 04- KAPCO 205 C Brooks 5-11-0 ... G Bradley
7 40- WAR PAINT 209 Mrs J Pitman 5-11-0 ... R Farrant
8 620- FLOOSY 153 T George 6-10-9 ... R Johnson
9 543- JUST JASMINE 167 K Bishop 5-10-9 ... R Greene
10 0P PINLEY TITANIA 100 F Jordan 4-10-8 ... S Wynne

4-7 Brownes Hill Lad, 7-1 Homme de Fer, 8-1 Kapco, Just Jasmine, 10-1 War Paint, 16-1 Floosy, 20-1 Bank Avenue, 50-1 others

2.20 FRIENDS OF ARTHUR ELLIOTT MEMORIAL NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,996: 2m 3f) (9)

1 /1F- STORM RUN 233 (F,G) P Nicholls 7-11-13 ... T J Murphy
2 1221 MOZEMO 15 (CD,F,G,S) M Pipe 10-11-4 ... A P McCoy
3 3/0- FRENCH BUCK 346 (G) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-3 ... C Llewellyn
4 0P-1 ROSSELL ISLAND 9 (G) Mrs J Pitman 6-10-13 ... R Farrant
5 -212 INDIAN TEMPLE 8 (BF,D,F) K Bishop 6-10-9 ... G Supple (5)
6 0R-P ICE MAGIC 6 (V) F Yardley 10-10-7 ... B Fenton
7 P6-5 PRIDEAUX PRINCE 15 (G) M Sheppard 11-10-0 ... R Johnson
8 222- KINESIOLOGY 160P R Buckler 9-10-0 ... B Powell
9 P-50 SANDS POINT 18 (B) C Popham 7-10-0 ... Mr O McPhail (7)

5-2 Rossell Island, 3-1 Mozemo, 7-2 Storm Run, 9-2 French Buck, 8-1 Indian Temple, 14-1 Prideaux Prince, 25-1 Kinesiology, 33-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Pipe, 37 winners from 109 runners, 33.9%; N Twiston-Davies, 28 from 97, 28.9%; C Brooks, 4 from 17, 23.5%; P Hobbs, 14 from 66, 21.2%; R Alner, 7 from 39, 17.9%; K Bailey, 15 from 85, 17.6%.

JOCKEYS: G Supple, 3 winners from 9 rides, 33.3%; A P McCoy, 25 from 81, 30.9%; C Llewellyn, 21 from 77, 27.3%; B Fenton, 7 from 26, 26.9%; R Dunwoody, 14 from 54, 25.9%; D Bridgwater, 24 from 103, 23.3%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Catterick: 2.45 Raased, Peep O Day. 3.20 St Lucia. 4.55 Happy Days Again. 5.25 Night Of Glass. Hereford: 3.30 Sigma Run, Pair Of Jacks. 4.35 Nordic Breeze. Newmarket: 1.30 Announcing. 3.45 Zena, Moothyeb.

2.55 FOWNHOPE SELLING HURDLE
(£1,886: 2m 3f 110yd) (13)

1 -12P MY HARVINSKI 51 (F,G) I Jones 7-11-4 ... Miss E J Jones (7)
2 0P-0 BRANDON BRIDGE 13 D Geraghty 6-10-12 ... R Supple
3 P0 GOLDLINER ALFIE 52 Miss M Rowland 5-10-12 ... P Midgley (5)
4 1/P- GRANSTOWN LAKE 190 (S) A Barrow 6-10-12 ... Mr O McPhail (7)
5 0443 JUST FOR A REASON 9 (G) R Juckes 5-10-12 ... Gary Lyons
6 0S4- SAAF 148 R Baker 6-10-12 ... V Slattery
7 542 THOMAS CROWN 9 M R Bosley 5-10-12 ... I Lawrence
8 3-33 WEATHER WISE 12 (BF) W G M Turner 5-10-12 ... A Thornton
9 0-0 SANS PERE 25 N Babbage 4-10-11 ... R Thornton (3)
10 3505 MAGGIE STRAIT 10 Mrs A King 5-10-7 ... R Dunwoody
11 -024 WOODLANDS ENERGY 9 P Pritchard 6-10-7 ... C Llewellyn
12 CASHTAL LACE 10F B Llewellyn 4-10-6 ... M Griffiths (7)
13 350 MRS DRUMMOND 36 G McCourt 4-10-6 ... D Bridgwater

7-4 Weather Wise, 6-1 My Harvinski, 7-1 Mrs Drummond, 8-1 Just For A Reason, Thomas Crown, 10-1 Saaf, Woodlands Energy, 12-1 others.

3.30 OVREVOLL HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,710: 2m) (6)

1 3341 FENWICK 15 (D,F,G,S) R Hodges 10-12-0 ... J Harris (7)
2 /61- ODELL 200 (D,F) K Bailey 7-12-0 ... N Williamson
3 U553 SIGMA RUN 18 (B,D,F,G) J O'Shea 8-11-12 ... Michael Brennan (3)
4 3U23 PAIR OF JACKS 15 (B,D,F,G) P Hobbs 7-11-8 ... R Dunwoody
5 068- REFLEX HAMMER 314 J Upson 6-10-9 ... R Supple
6 44P3 DAWN CHANCE 24 (CD,F,S) R Hayes 11-10-5 ... A Maguire

2-1 Odell, 11-4 Fenwick, 4-1 Pair Of Jacks, 5-1 Reflex Hammer, 13-2 Sigma Run, 7-1 Dawn Chance

4.05 WOOLHOPE NOVICES CHASE
(£2,879: 3m 1f 110yd) (9)

1 -R13 PERSIAN VIEW 15 (BF,CD,F,G,S) K Bailey 7-11-5 ... Mr R Wakley (5)
2 PPU- BENBULBIN 280 J Mullins 7-10-12 ... S Curran
3 0F-2 DANZIG ISLAND 20 (B,F,G) W Jenks 6-10-12 ... T Jenks
4 /0P- DOUBLE ACHIEVEMENT 233 M Pipe 7-10-12 ... A P McCoy
5 141- MR STRONG GALE 184 (F,G) P Nicholls 6-10-12 ... T J Murphy
6 P41- NODDIS DILEMMA 237P (S) R Alner 7-10-12 ... A Thornton
7 2U/3 TRIMAGE 13 N J Pomfret 9-10-12 ... J Culloty
8 -22U GOWER-SLAVE 15 (G) P Bowen 5-10-9 ... W Marston
9 054- COUNTRY TOWN 232 A P Jones 7-10-7 ... S McNeill

7-4 Mr Strong Gale, 4-1 Gower-Slave, 6-1 Persian View, Double Achievement, 8-1 Danzig Island, Noddis Dilemma, 12-1 Country Town, 33-1 others.

4.35 HOLME LACY HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,850: 2m 1f) (7)

1 1-23 NORDIC BREEZE 13 (V,D,F,S) M Pipe 5-12-0 ... A P McCoy
2 123- DARAKSHAN 163 (D,F,G,S) Miss H Knight 5-11-5 ... R Dunwoody
3 165- GOLDINGO 221 (CD,F,G,S) C M Price 10-11-2 ... J R Kavanagh
4 22-3 PERCY BRAITHWAITE 20 (F) Miss P Whittle 5-11-0 ... J Osborne
5 P0-2 EASY LISTENING 19 (D,G) N Hawke 5-11-0 ... M A Fitzgerald
6 40-1 EXALTED 15 (CD,F) W Jenks 4-10-11 ... T Jenks
7 5-3P O MY LOVE 55 N Babbage 6-10-0 ... B Fenton

5-2 Darakshan, 7-2 Exalted, 4-1 Easy Listening, 9-2 Nordic Breeze, 11-2 Percy Braithwaite, 10-1 Goldingo, 50-1 O My Love.

هكذا من الإصل

David Powell on the Briton about to defend her Chicago Marathon title

Sutton taking the Windy City by storm

APEX

Pounding the beach: lack of adequate facilities in West Looe means that Sutton has to use the Cornish coastline for training purposes

Winning the Chicago Marathon can lead to many things. For Marian Sutton, the benefits did not stop with her arrival home last year, when she found the local mayor waiting in her front room with a bouquet, or with tickets to attend a gala athletics night at the Park Lane Hotel, or with a lucrative deal to appear in the London Marathon.

Chicago adores its marathon champions and, not wanting to wait a year before seeing Sutton again, sent her an invitation to return in June to help to promote the marathon and compete in the Hard Rock Café five-kilometres road race. Oh, and would she like to throw the first pitch for the White Sox in their baseball match against the Minnesota Twins?

Paul Evans, Sutton's fellow Briton, who had won the men's Chicago Marathon title, was also asked to pitch, but declined. Not Sutton, daunting though the prospect was. When the part-time solicitor's secretary from the Cornish fishing village of West Looe lines up to defend her title here on Sunday, she will not be as nervous as she was when she walked out to the pitcher's mound before 25,000 spectators at Comiskey Park.

However, everything Sutton does in Chicago seems to go right. Not only did she win her road race but, according to Chris Hartweg, the Chicago Marathon media director, she did such a "wonderful job" pitching that she received an ovation. "She reared back, threw it and made it 60 feet to the home plate on the fly [without bouncing]," Hartweg said.

The distance on which Sutton's sights are fixed this weekend is somewhat longer: 26 miles 385 yards. If she is optimistic about winning, it is because her form has been even better than it was before the Chicago Marathon last year. People have begun to wonder if she ready to displace Liz McColgan as Britain's No 1 woman distance runner.

Few think she is, but the challenge is in place. Five weeks ago, Sutton finished clear not only of McColgan but also of Derartu Tulu, the world cross-country champion, in the Great North Run half-marathon, setting a personal-best time of 69min 41sec. Then, two weeks ago, in the Great South Run ten-mile race, Sutton pressed McColgan into a lifetime best of her own. McColgan won in 52:00, Sutton improving by almost 40 seconds to 52:15. Both times, she finished second.

In between duels with McColgan, Sutton won a ten-kilometre race in another personal best, 32:38. There is no McColgan for Sutton to race against here, the Scot opting for the Tokyo Marathon on November 30, but the elite field includes six athletes who have achieved something she never has, a sub-2hr 30min marathon. That does not include the latest rising Kenyan, Lornah Kiplagat. Aged 23, Kiplagat trains with Joyce Chepchumba, McColgan's conqueror in a thrilling London finish last April.

It all went horribly wrong for Sutton in the London Marathon because she was "so obsessed" with breaking 2hr 30min. She finished twentieth in 2:35.45. "I got it totally wrong in the way I was thinking," Sutton said.

'People are asking if she can replace Liz McColgan as the British No 1'

Last year, Sutton's measured approach here paid off and she became only the second British woman this decade, after McColgan, to triumph in one of the main commercial marathons. She trailed Kristy Johnston by half a minute in the 24th mile but timed her run perfectly for a personal best 2:30.41.

Her victory was worth $43,000 (about £27,000) in prize-money and bonuses and that, together with her increased market value, might have persuaded her to give up work. Living in West Looe is hardly ideal for an international runner and, as if being remote from training partners is not disadvantage enough, limited street lighting forces her to run repetitive loops on winter nights.

The option to give up work and train by day has not been taken, though she has cut back from a five-day to a four-day week. She fears the boredom of "sitting at home waiting to go for another run". However, block training spells of two months at a time in New Zealand and the United States have proved so beneficial that she is wavering. "I am undecided about working because the concentration of training has made a difference," she said. "In the winters, I struggle because of the lack of facilities. I am going to have to restructure it somehow."

Having Mondays off has enabled Sutton to recover from long journeys back home after Sunday races. "I used to miss Monday morning training a lot because of the travelling," she said. "I was too tired to get up and go before work."

Aged 34, Sutton is an imposing 6ft. Although some have suggested that her height is a disadvantage for a marathon runner — Joan Benoit-Samuelson, the former Olympic champion, among them — Sutton has never let that worry her. This woman from a tiny Cornish village will form a big presence in the Windy City on Sunday. Nobody here is betting against her blowing the opposition away.

Sutton runs to victory in Chicago last October

SQUASH

Nicol and Harris pool resources

From Colin McQuillan in Alexandria

MUCH may be learnt here this week about the benefits of bringing squad psychology to the highly individual business of professional squash competition.

Peter Nicol, of Scotland, and Del Harris, of England, drew support from the management and coaching expertise of Neil Harvey and David Pearson, the men behind England's team successes in the junior and senior men's world championships over the past two years, to reach the semi-finals of the Egyptian Open. But two of the most individualistic players emerged to bar their way to the final today.

Nicol, 24, of Inverurie, who has risen to world No 3 with Harvey as his personal mentor, was scheduled to meet the world champion, Jansher Khan, whom he defeated the last time they met in the final of the Al Ahram International, in Egypt, last June.

Jansher speeds around the world with his friend and cousin, Mehboub, always going home to Peshawar between tournaments and usually in dispute with some part of the game's authorities. At present he is refusing to defend his world title in Malaysia next month because of legal problems in that country over child maintenance for his seven-year-old son, Kamran.

While Nicol was tidying away Simon Parke, of England, 11-15, 15-8, 15-7, 15-12 in a 73-minute quarter-final — after which he was as sympathetic about Parke's tiredness late in the game as he was pleased with his own relaxed performance — Jansher battled through 83 minutes of noise to overcome Ahmed Barada and his Egyptian following 10-15, 15-6, 15-13, 15-12.

Harris, 28, with Pearson in his corner, defeated Julien Bonetat, of France, 15-13, 15-5, 15-8 to reach a semi-final against Jonathon Power, 24, from Canada, who has shaken up the PSA World Tour this year with his humorous and inventive front-court play.

Power, who likes to embarrass his opponents with delay and deceit as much as to defeat them for ranking points, has so far this year managed both ambitions three times each against Nicol and Harris, closing them out of the French, Hungarian, US and Hong Kong events.

A breakthrough against the Canadian might trigger in either British player queries about the effectiveness of the traditional lone warrior approach.

Fitz-Gerald win leaves room for improvement

SARAH FITZ-GERALD, the defending champion, and Michelle Martin, her main rival, swept into the quarter-finals of the women's world championship in Sydney yesterday and remain on course to meet in the final.

Fitz-Gerald, the top seed, and her Australian compatriot, Martin, the No 2 seed and triple world champion, were hardly tested as they made short work of their opponents. Fitz-Gerald beat Robyn Cooper, also of Australia, 9-3, 9-3 9-6, but said that her opponent had exposed some weaknesses in her game.

"Robyn is a talented player and she figured out a few ways to play me," Fitz-Gerald said. "It made me think of a couple of things to fix up in my game and I will work on that before my match tomorrow." Fitz-Gerald plays Suzanne Horner, the No 8 seed from England, next.

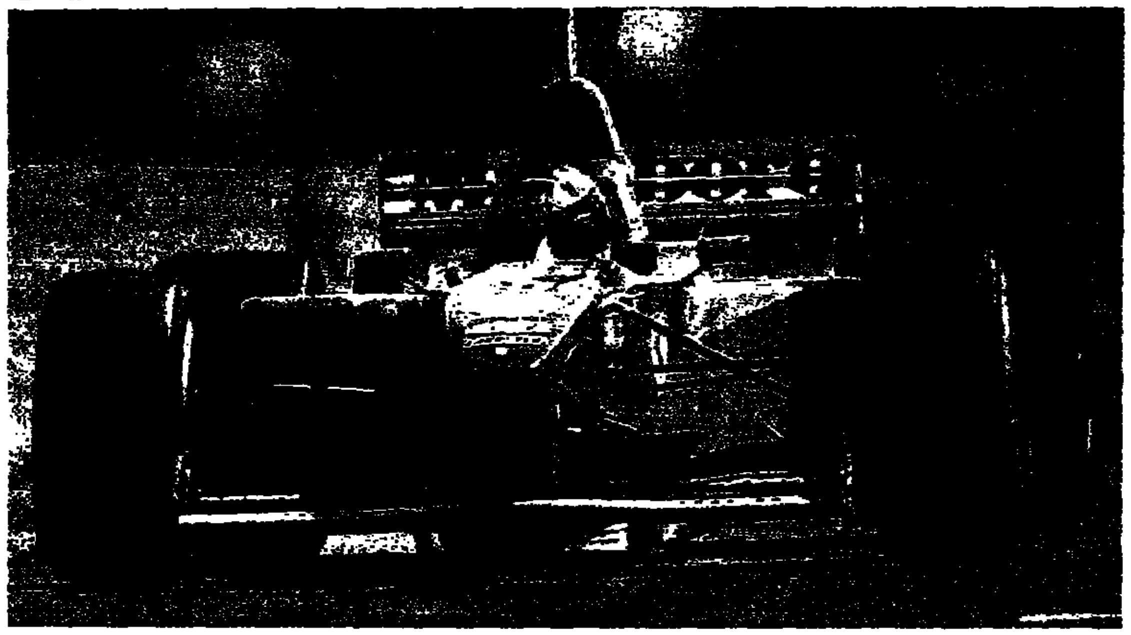
Martin disposed of Leilani Joyce, of New Zealand, 9-5, 9-3 9-0, though she said that she had struggled to adjust to the Perspex court after a rest day during the split first round. She will play Sabine Schoene, the No 7 seed from Germany, today.

EXCLUSIVE TIMES NEWSPAPERS GRAND PRIX COMPETITION

THE TIMES FANTASY FORMULA ONE
IN ASSOCIATION WITH MARLBORO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

Fantasy race hots up for our £25,000 top prize

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
Marlboro
World Championship Team



THE PRIZES The manager with the best team score after the European Grand Prix on October 26 will win £25,000 courtesy of our sponsor Marlboro World Championship team. Prizes of £10,000 and £5,000 will go to two runners-up. The manager with the best score at the European GP wins a trip for two to next year's British GP. The runner-up will receive a Sony PlayStation and CD-Rom game.

With up to 600 bonus points available in next Sunday's European Grand Prix for the managers who correctly predict the first three drivers to cross the finishing line, the race for our £25,000 top prize is still wide open. Printed below are the results of the Japanese Grand Prix. Heading our leaderboard is A Bradley of Godalming, Surrey. His team, Slickhead 3, scored 746 points at the Japanese Grand Prix to take his cumulative score in the competition to 11,963 points. Hot on his tail in second position is I Dowty of Reigate, Surrey. His team, Dow Jones 2, scored 723 points in Japan to take his total to 11,952 in the competition. D Shepherd of Montrose, Angus (Raith Rovers FC, 11,860 points), M Wood of Bromley, Kent (Wood Racing, 11,860 points) and P Watley, East Wittering, W Sussex (Team UDO, 11,732) are all poised to take advantage of any slip-ups at the European Grand Prix. P Lamb of Beckenham, Kent, wins a trip for two to next year's British GP. His team, East Forward, scored 796 points in Japan. C King of Rochester, Kent wins a Sony PlayStation and CD-Rom game. His team, Colly Cats, scored 796 points. They were selected at random from all managers who scored 796 points at Japan.

TRANSFERS Change up to four selections before the European Grand Prix by calling 0891 555 994 (+44 990 100 394 ex UK) before noon on Thursday, October 23.

CHECK YOUR SCORE Check your score and position by calling 0891 884 648 (+44 990 100 348 ex UK).

PLEASE NOTE: The results printed here for the Japanese Grand Prix may change subject to the FIA disciplinary hearing for Jacques Villeneuve next Tuesday.

HOW THE POINTS WERE SCORED AT SUZUKA

DRIVERS: Qualifying points (scored by qualifying for the start of each grand prix within the first 20 positions on the grid): Pole J Villeneuve 30 points; 2nd M Schumacher 25; 3rd E Irvine 24; 4th M Hakkinen 23; 5th G Berger 22; 6th H-H Frentzen 21; 7th J Alesi 20; 8th J Herbert 19; 9th G Fisichella 18; 10th O Panis 17; 11th D Coulthard 16; 12th R Barrichello 15; 13th R Schumacher 14; 14th J Magnussen 13; 15th S Nakano 12; 16th P Diniz 11; 17th D Hill 10; 18th G Morbidelli 9; 19th U Katayama 8; 20th T Marques 7.

Finishing points (scored for the top 20 classified positions at the end of every grand prix): 1st M Schumacher 60 points; 2nd H-H Frentzen 50; 3rd E Irvine 40; 4th M Hakkinen 30; 5th J Villeneuve 29; 6th J Alesi 28; 7th J Herbert 27; 8th G Fisichella 26; 9th G Berger 25; 10th R Schumacher 24; 11th D Coulthard 23; 12th D Hill 22; 13th P Diniz 21; 14th J Verstappen 20. (Only 13 were classified. D Coulthard was classified although he did not finish the race.)

Lap points (one point for each lap completed): M Schumacher 53 points; H-H Frentzen 53; E Irvine 53; M Hakkinen 53; J Villeneuve 53; J Alesi 53; J Herbert 53; G Fisichella 53; G Berger 53; R Schumacher 53; D Coulthard 52; D Hill 52; P Diniz 52; J Verstappen 52; M Salo 46; T Marques 46; O Panis 36; S Nakano 22; U Katayama 8; R Barrichello 6; J Magnussen 3.

Improvement from starting grid to finishing position (3 points for each improved place): J Verstappen 21 points; D Hill 15; H-H Frentzen 12; P Diniz 9; R Schumacher 9; M Schumacher 3; J Alesi 3; J Herbert 3; G Fisichella 3.

Fastest lap time of grand prix H-H Frentzen 10 points.

Penalty points Incident resulting in a driver being made to start from back of grid or pit lane (10 points deducted): none. **Did not finish the race** (10 points deducted): D Coulthard -10 points; R Barrichello -10; M Salo -10; O Panis -10; U Katayama -10; S Nakano -10; T Marques -10; J Magnussen -10. **Not starting after qualifying** (10 points deducted): G Morbidelli -10 points. (G Morbidelli qualified in 18th position on the grid but did not take part in the race due to his accident in the qualifying session.) **Speeding in the pit lane** (5 points deducted): none.

CONSTRUCTORS: Finishing points (scored for the first car only in the top 20 positions at the end of every grand prix): Ferrari 30 points; Williams 25; McLaren 23; Benetton 21; Sauber 20; Jordan 19; Arrows 15; Tyrrell 13. **Penalty points** Incident resulting in a car being made to start from back of grid or pit lane (10 points deducted); none. **Elimination of a car during the race** (10 points deducted): Prost -20 points; Minardi -20; Stewart -20; McLaren -10; Tyrrell -10. **Not starting after qualifying** (10 points deducted): Sauber -10 points. **Speeding in the pit lane** (5 points deducted): none.

OUR LEADERBOARD AFTER THE JAPANESE GRAND PRIX

POS	TEAM NAME	MANAGER NAME	POINTS
1	Slickhead 3	A Bradley	11963
2	Dow Jones 2	I Dowty	11952
3	Wood Racing	M Wood	11860
3	Raith Rovers F C	D Shepherd	11860
5	Team U D O	P Watley	11732
6	Mosulvie	J Madden	11729
7	Forza 27	M Joannides	11700
8	Waite Racing F1	P Waite	11656
9	Slay'em	Ms Sleigh	11636
10	Sky Stars	A McPhee	11596
10	Fanfair Racing	R Crosby	11596
10	Diamond	M Parsons	11596
10	Burridge Racing	I Burridge	11596
10	Grow 97	P McKinney	11596
10	Sennasational 5	G Curry	11596
16	Bet A Ton	M Dymond	11591
17	The Very Real Club	J Heighway	11580
17	Red Menace 1	M Power	11580
17	Marit's Maniacs	M Johnson	11580
17	Thompson Terrors	A Thompson	11580
17	Rufus II	S Daniels	11580
17	Bangers	R Mullen	11580
17	Mark's Wizards	Mrs H Evans	11580
17	—	A Pearce	11580
17	Stevie G1	S Georgiadis	11580
17	Adam's Autos	C Adams	11580
17	Harris Rule Racers	N Roberts	11580
17	GFO	A Gent	11580
17	Georgie	M Clark	11580
17	Snic Racing	N J Trott	11580

MAKE THREE SELECTIONS FROM EACH OF THE FOUR GROUPS BELOW

The first column of figures, in light type after the names below, shows the Fantasy Formula One race scores for the Japanese GP. The second column shows the total points in the competition so far.

DRIVERS

GROUP A			GROUP B		
01 D Hill	99	1211	13 O Panis*	43	1655
02 M Schumacher	141	1857	14 J Verstappen	93	1052
03 J Villeneuve	112	1750	15 U Katayama	6	860
04 E Irvine	117	1358	16 P Diniz	93	958
05 J Alesi	104	1737	17 R Rosset	0	0
06 G Berger	100	1475	18 R Schumacher	100	1122
07 M Hakkinen	106	1187	19 G Fisichella	100	1480
08 D Coulthard	81	1343	20 S Nakano	24	1039
09 R Barrichello	11	781	21 G Morbidelli*	-1	1386
10 H-H Frentzen	146	1556	22 T Marques*	43	871
11 J Herbert	102	1418	23 J Magnussen	6	762
12 M Salo	36	1219	24 V Sospiri	0	0

CONSTRUCTORS

GROUP C			GROUP D		
25 Williams	25	260	31 Arrows	15	3
26 Ferrari	30	250	32 Sauber	10	189
27 McLaren	13	122	33 Tyrrell	3	1
28 Benetton	21	293	34 Minardi	-20	8
29 Jordan	19	146	35 Stewart	-20	-157
30 Prost	-20	114	36 Lola	0	0

*Olivier Panis replaces Jarno Trulli in the Prost team. Tarso Marques replaces Trulli at Minardi and at Sauber Gianni Morbidelli, who originally replaced Nicola Larini, replaces Fontana.

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هكذا من الأصل

RUGBY UNION

Saint-Andre returns to captain France

By Mark Souster

TO SOME they may be overpaid and over here, but the France selectors yesterday showed that they bore no malice towards their international players who now play in England. By naming Philippe Saint-Andre, Thierry Lacroix and Laurent Cabannes in the side to play Italy in the opening match of the Latin Cup in Auch, France, tomorrow, France have shown a realism that has not always been evident in their selectorial policy.

Saint-Andre, now part of an increasingly cosmopolitan Gloucester side, returns as captain for the first time since being injured against Romania last year. Although he made his international comeback in the defeat against Italy in March, he now replaces Abdel Benazzi as captain.

While Saint-Andre's recall was always probable, those of Cabannes and Lacroix, of Harlequins, were less so. Lacroix, 30, won the last of his 38 caps against Ireland at Parc des Princes in February last year, while Cabannes, 33, last played against Wales in Cardiff a month later.

Cabannes comes in at openside in place of Olivier Magne, considered by many to be the outstanding player of the five nations' championship this year, while Lacroix is at fly half, ahead of Alain Penaud. Pierre Villepreux, the assistant coach, said that Christophe Lamaison would be the place-kicker, freeing Lacroix of the responsibility. "We don't want to weigh him down," Villepreux said. "We want him to organise the game as he has been doing for Harlequins this season."

Lacroix's partner at half back will be Fabien Galthié, who is preferred to Philippe Carbonneau, the Brive scrum half, who was involved in the fracas with Pontypridd in the Heineken Cup.

Lacroix's Harlequins colleague, Keith Wood, trained with the club yesterday and was named as captain for the league game away to Richmond tomorrow, despite reports from Ireland that he had been advised to rest and take a blood test because he was run down. Wood said yesterday that there was nothing wrong with him and that the blood test was a routine club matter because he had felt lethargic.

"I told Pat Whelan [the Ireland manager] that I would not be training with the international squad on Wednesday because I was feeling a bit run down and wanted to recover my energy," Wood said. "I am not ruled out of anything. I did not train with the club on Tuesday because I had a back niggle, but I can assure you there is no problem and no story."

With the Heineken Cup put on hold for a fortnight, the disjointed league programme resumes this weekend. Bristol, who have lost both their opening games this season, cannot relish the prospect of a derby against Bath. Alex Poole makes his debut at prop forward for Bristol, while Phil Adams and Craig Short replace Jim Brownrigg and Richie Collins respectively.

Frano Botica, the Llanelli fly half, has withdrawn from Croatia's World Cup qualifying match against Romania on Sunday because of a shoulder injury

FRANCE (v Italy, tomorrow): J-L Sadourny (Colomiers), L Leflamand (Bourgoin), C Lamaison (Brive), T Castaignède (Castres), P Saint-Andre (Gloucester, capt); T Lacroix (Harlequins), F Galthié (Colomiers); F Tournaire (Toulouse), M Dal Maso (Agen), C Califano (Toulouse), O Brouzet (Bègles-Bordeaux), O Merle (Montferrand), F Pelous (Toulouse), L Cabannes (Harlequins), A Benazzi (Agen). Replacements: J Cazalbou (Toulouse), S Glas (Bourgoin), P Benetton (Agen), O Magne (Brive), R Ibanez (Dax), C Soulette (Bèziers).

Blair fits the bill for club and country

Mark Souster meets the coach who aims to take England and Bath to new levels of physical attainment

ADRIAN SHERRATT

Blair works on strengthening the leg muscles of Nigel Redman, the Bath lock

Among the many overseas recruits who have slipped into the English game this season, the most astute signing could prove to be a craggy 63-year-old grandfather from New Zealand.

On the surface, Jim Blair, who joined Bath this summer as fitness trainer, appears an unlikely health guru. For a start, he smokes incessantly. It is not so much the man, however, as his methods and track record with Auckland and the All Blacks that have ensured that Blair is considered a doyen of fitness coaching.

It is also why Clive Woodward, on being appointed England coach, wanted him involved with the international squad. The pair worked together only briefly at the Recreation Ground but Woodward was sufficiently impressed that he insisted that Blair came on board on a consultancy basis, starting last month, through to the 1999 World Cup.

He made an instant impression on the polyglot squad at Bath, where the training regime has radically altered with new ideas and structures put into place. Parachutes, sleds and hurdles are now part and parcel of the schedule. "He is unbelievable — in a different class," Andy Nicol, the Bath captain, said.

Blair left his native Glasgow 35 years ago for a new life in New Zealand, armed only with a physical education diploma, six years' experience as a physical education instructor with the Royal Air Force, £11 in his pocket and a head full of ideas.

He admits it is ironic that he, a Scotsman by birth, is now helping England's cause and that life, as it often does, has come full circle. He emigrated to escape the stuffiness and strictures of Britain but has returned, albeit temporarily on a two-year contract, having made his name Down Under. During his 15-year tenure with Auckland, where he revolutionised modern fitness coaching, he enjoyed unmatched success; only six games were lost out of 300. He worked with the All Blacks in the 1987 World Cup and has also lent his expertise to Western Samoa, Fiji, and Australia.

His avuncular air masks a man of steely disposition. "I am very demanding — I am used to being with winners," Blair said. "I am not used to losing and I have no intention of getting used to it. The one thing I cannot stand is dishonesty. I will trust players to have done the work; if I find I can't trust them, they and I are finished."

Blair is convinced that the ability and fitness of England's elite do not lag far behind those of New Zealand. It is the system, the plethora of matches, that lies at the root cause of England's inability to dominate the world game. Players, he has found, are mentally dulled by the treadmill of club and international rugby.

"The system here is a splendid recipe for mediocrity. A top All Black will play a maximum of 35 top-class games a season, which we think may be too many. Martin Johnson could play 47 games. It is a huge load. It is not fair to players. You are misusing your assets, which are the players. You have to look at the number of games. Sit down and start with the word excellence and then work backwards asking, 'how will we achieve this?' "

His own theories and philosophies were first put into practice with the New Zealand elite under-19 squad in Christchurch, work that brought him to the attention first of Alex Wyllie, the Canterbury coach, then John Hart at Auckland and finally Brian Lochore for the 1987 World Cup.

"When I first watched rugby teams train, they all did the same thing; went for runs and used one ball. When I started with Canterbury, I asked Grizz Wyllie for 16 balls. He said there weren't that many in Christchurch. I told him we had to do it my way or not at all. He eventually agreed. I couldn't understand how players were expected to handle and run and be deceptive on a Saturday, if that was the only time in the week that they touched it."

'You must start with the word excellence and work backwards to achieve it'

Mutual trust lies at the core of New Zealand rugby, which translates into what Blair describes as "mateship". He said: "They talk a lot about being in the dressing-room at the end of a game and being able to look each other in the eye — they really mean it. The All Blacks are a very emotional group of men; they may not show it, but they really get emotional about the game. They care about not letting their mates down." If he can help to engender that spirit, then New Zealand's loss will be England's gain.

Hallett predicts further conflict

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

TONY HALLETT, one of the central figures in the long-standing dispute between officers of the Rugby Football Union (RFU), believes that the battle between the sport's traditional authorities and the leading professional clubs is far from over.

Hallett, who resigned as secretary to the RFU in August, said in an interview with the magazine, *Rugby News*: "England's owner-backed clubs need more space for self-determination, greater delegated opportunities and a general freedom. But I don't think that is consistent with what the new regime at Twickenham wants."

Hallett's resignation became inevitable after the July annual meeting that voted so firmly in favour of retaining Cliff Brittle as chairman of the management board. But he remains convinced that the union was right to reach the contentious agreement with BSkyB (the satellite television company part-owned by News International, owner of *The Times*), in defiance of the other home unions, and that television rights remain central to a healthy future for the clubs.

"I can't see that clubs with serious investments in them will accept the present situation when they think how it is in football," Hallett said. "For example, the International [Rugby Football] Board has set the regulations that say only governing bodies may investigate broadcasting rights. I think they're wrong and I think European law will demonstrate that. It seems absolutely restrictive practice and any governing body must be very aware of its position in law. Because the challenge will come, that is for sure, from this country if not from France."

Hallett's views are expressed in a month when several leading clubs are showing signs of financial distress and in a week before Channel 5 will confirm details of a weekly rugby programme, to which the clubs have contributed substantially.

SNOOKER: FORTUNE FAVOURS FORMER WORLD CHAMPION IN GRAND PRIX

Deserving Parrott takes pot luck

By Phil Yates

Parrott: impressive

SUBSCRIBERS to the theory that good fortune in sport is equally distributed in the long term would have viewed John Parrott's 5-1 victory over Drew Henry in the second round of the Grand Prix at Bournemouth yesterday with considerable interest.

When the pair met at the corresponding stage of the British Open last season, Henry admitted that he had enjoyed a benevolent run of the balls during a surprise 5-3 win. On this occasion, the roles were reversed as all the luck favoured Parrott.

Henry's first setback arrived in the opening frame. He needed to pot the pink to lead 1-0 only to go in-off and Parrott sank pink and black. Worse still for Henry, Parrott fluked the last red in the fourth frame on the way to producing a 40 clearance to lead 3-1.

"Drew had such a fantastic run the last time we played I had no qualms whatsoever about having the odd fluke," Parrott, who impressively accounted for the closing two frames with breaks of 64 and 116, said. He now faces Brian Morgan.

Peter Ebdon, the No 5 seed, became the third member of the top 16 to be eliminated. The 1993 champion lost 5-3 to John Birch, of Middlesbrough, yesterday after leading 3-2.

Ken Doherty, who broke Stephen Hendry's five-year monopoly of the world championship at the Crucible in April, continued his disappointing start to the season late on Wednesday evening when he lost 5-4 to Willie Thorne.

The Irishman, who squandered a chance to pot the black in the eighth frame for a 5-3 victory, was adamant that his new-found status within the game has not placed him under any additional pressure, yet its very mention would suggest that the idea had crossed his mind.

"I have been putting in an awful lot of practice lately but obviously I've got to work even harder," Doherty said. He was also beaten 6-5 by Nigel Bond, the eventual winner, in his opening match at the Regal Scottish Masters two weeks ago.

Parrott, qualified to speak on the issue from personal experience after winning the 1991 world championship, disagreed with Doherty. "Of course there's extra responsibility when you are in Ken's position, no matter which way you look at it," he said. "Players get geed up by who they are playing."

James Wattana, of Thailand, and Quinten Hann, the leading player from Australia, enhanced the cosmopolitan nature of the event's televised phase by progressing. Wattana beat Stephen O'Connor 5-4 while Hann, a rising force, included breaks of 75 and 124 during his 5-2 win over Joe Swail.

Results, page 45

HOCKEY: GARRARD TO FACE FORMER CLUB AS ENGLAND WOMEN SUFFER SETBACK

Johnson returns to lift unbeaten Cannock

By Sydney Friskin

BRETT GARRARD, the England Under-21 captain, who played for Guildford last year, has joined Teddington and is in the squad for the National League premier division match against his former club on Sunday.

Garrard fills a gap in the Teddington defence caused by the absence of Dawkins, the Australian, who is injured. Guildford are at full strength with Hall, Moseley and Markham as front-runners and Jennings in support.

All eyes will be on the match between Cannock and Hounslow, the only clubs with 100 per cent records. Cannock, the hosts, have strengthened their midfield by recalling Johnson, who was rested after the junior World Cup at Milton Keynes. Kalbir Takher will not play because his ankle injury has not healed. The only doubtful starter in Hounslow's squad is Williamson, the Wales defender, who has a swollen thumb and who could be replaced by Lanoe.

Southgate, for whom Simons scored three goals in the 7-2 defeat of Teddington last week, expect to be even stronger for the home match against Canterbury, with Craig Carolan, from South Africa, as their new centre half. Canterbury, the surprise team of the league, are persevering with Evernett, Humphries, Mathews and Wicken, the junior World Cup players.

Reading, the title-holders, in seventh position, have some repair work to do when they entertain Barford Tigers. Manpreet Kochar's return to their defence after a two-week rest restores them to full strength. Old Loughtonians expect to earn full points from their home match against newly-promoted Beeston.

Havant have been awarded a National Lottery grant of £250,000 for the upgrading of their sand-filled artificial turf pitch at Havant College to a water-base surface that will enable them to stage international matches.

England's build-up disrupted by injury

By Cathy Harris

THE withdrawal of three players from the England squad to play Germany in two matches in Cologne this weekend was hardly the news Maggie Souyave, the England coach, wanted to receive.

With the World Cup in Utrecht looming next May, Souyave had expected to start the first stages of the selection process. Instead, she will be missing the defender, Lisa Copeland, and the prolific goalscorer, Tina Cullen, who are out with back injuries.

Hilary Rose, the Olympic goalkeeper and a student at the University of Massachusetts, will not be be making the trip either, but the good news is that Tammy Miller, the Clifton captain and midfield player, has recovered from a calf injury and will make her return to the international scene.

After the games in Germany, Souyave will announce the squad to play South Korea, the Olympic silver medal-winners, in two matches at the end of this month.

For the young players in the side there is everything to play for while for others, Souyave has admitted it is a make-or-break situation. "I imagine that most of the players will be pretty nervous when we start," she said.

"But it's crucial for me to see how the younger players perform alongside the more senior members and react under pressure when they're wearing an England shirt."

With at least ten players resting from international competition or sidelined with injuries, Souyave can afford to be ruthless when she assesses the whole England senior training party at Lilleshall on October 26.

ENGLAND: M Clewlow (Canterbury), J Empson (Canterbury), L Culliford (Clifton), T Miller (Clifton), C Reid (Hightown), L King (Ipswich), L Youngs (Ipswich), S Blanks (Leicester), K Bowden (Leicester), C Voss (Leicester), J Bimson (Loughborough Students), K Brown (Slough), M Nicholls (Slough), J Smith (Slough), M Davies (Sutton Coldfield), J Sixsmith (Sutton Coldfield).

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

This Refresher is about a common defensive manoeuvre.

Dealer West	Love all	IMPs

North:
♠ 10 6
♥ 10 6
♦ A Q J 6 5 3
♣ A 3 2

West:
♠ J 7 4 3
♥ J 9 8 5 4
♦ 9
♣ K 9 6

East:
♠ 9 5 2
♥ A Q 3
♦ K 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 4

South:
♠ A K Q 8
♥ K 7 2
♦ 10 2
♣ Q J 7 5

W	N	E	S
Pass	1 D	Pass	1 S
Pass	2 D	Pass	3 NT
All Pass			

Contract: Three No-Trumps. Lead: five of hearts.

See what happens if East puts on the ace of hearts at trick one. He continues with the queen at trick two, ducked by declarer, and declarer wins the third round of hearts. When he runs the ten of diamonds to East, East has no more hearts. So declarer makes ten tricks — three spades, a heart, five diamonds and a club.

When this hand occurred at the BBL Premier League, this was the bidding at most of the tables, and on the heart lead all of the East players put in the queen. Look at that from the declarer's point of view. If he ducks, he may find that West has led from AJ854 of hearts, and now the defence will take the first five tricks. If he takes the king of hearts, he will be all right if West has the king of diamonds, or if East has the king of diamonds and the hearts were initially 4-4. That's what happened — all the declarers who received a heart lead went down in Three No-Trumps.

Note that within the confines of the heart suit it can never cost to play the queen.

Apply the rule of eleven: to remind you of the rule, you subtract from eleven the spot card your partner has led. In this case he led the five, which makes the magic number six. That is the number of cards higher than the five held by dummy, you and declarer.

Thus here you can tell that the declarer has two cards higher than the five, since you and dummy have four of them. So playing the ace of hearts is not going to drop declarer's singleton king — he is known to have another card protecting it.

☐ The world championships start in Tunisia this weekend and Great Britain are represented in the women's event, the Venice Cup. From Monday onwards, watch this space for the latest results.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Kasparov's loss

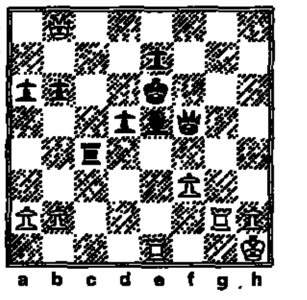
It must have been galling for Kasparov to lose to his young Russian rival and reigning Russian champion, Peter Swidler at the Tilburg tournament. Kasparov has been supremely successful in his most recent tournaments against human opposition scoring first prizes at Las Palmas, Linares and Novgorod. At Tilburg, too, Kasparov seemed destined for another record breaking first prize. However, he stumbled badly in his needle game against Swidler. Swidler employed an unusual opening variation and then suddenly sacrificed a pawn which was probably too hot to take. Nevertheless, Kasparov snatched the material, only to find his king exposed and his kingside pawns weakened. In spite of a brave attempt at counter-attack, Kasparov's position ultimately collapsed.

White: Peter Swidler
Black: Garry Kasparov
Tilburg, October 1997

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	c3	Nf6
4	Be2	Nbd7
5	d3	b6
6	0-0	Bb7
7	Nbd2	g6
8	d4	cxd4
9	cxd4	Nxe4
10	Nxe4	Bxe4
11	Ng5	d5
12	Bb5	Bg7
13	f3	Bf5
14	g4	h6
15	gxf5	hxg5
16	fxg6	e6
17	gxf7+	Kxf7
18	Ba4	Rh5
19	Be3	Nf6
20	Qd2	Qd6
21	Rf2	Rah8
22	Rg2	Rh3
23	Rf1	R8h4
24	Bc2	Nh5
25	Bf5	Nf4
26	Bxh3	Nxh3+
27	Kh1	Qf6
28	Rg3	Qf5
29	Bxg5	Nxg5
30	Rxg5	Qh3
31	Rg2	Bf6
32	Qd3	Rxd4
33	Qg6+	Ke6
34	Qe8	Rc4
35	Qd8	Qf5
36	Re1+	Be5
37	Qb8	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Team championship

The World Team Championship is soon due to start at Lucerne in Switzerland. Adams's performance at Tilburg augurs well for the British attempt on the gold medals. He will be joined in the team by Nigel Short, Matthew Sadler and Jon Speelman.

Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in *The Times*, and is available now from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing).

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SHERLOCK HOLMES HORACE HARKER
a. A detective
b. A murderer
c. A reporter

STEILER
a. An Alp
b. A hotel manager
c. A rising young forger

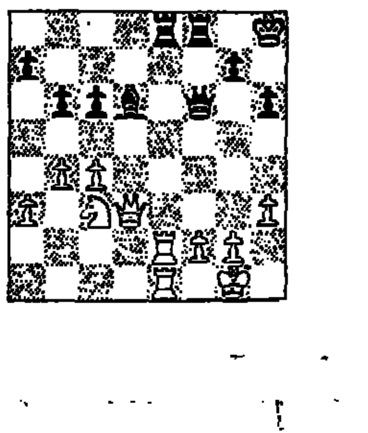
DUNDAS SEPARATION
a. A chemical experiment
b. A divorce case
c. A bankruptcy scandal

DIOGENES
a. A Greek ship-owner
b. A London Club
c. A famous bloodhound

Answers on page 45

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene



Black to play. This position is from the game G. Hernandez — A. Hernandez, Cuba 1997.

In this battle of the Hernandezes, 'A' found a clever way to break into 'G's position and reach a winning endgame. What did he play?

Solution on page 45

هكذا من الأصل

Bonetti ready to go on parade at Palace

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

CRYSTAL Palace yesterday signed the Italian midfield player, Ivano Bonetti, on a week-to-week basis.

The former Grimsby Town and Tranmere Rovers man originally impressed the Palace manager, Steve Coppell, in a trial match last week. "I felt he was the best player on the day," Coppell said. "We are signing him on a short-term basis for three or four weeks.

"He has very good vision and, at the age of 33, he has great mobility. I don't really have a vacancy in the squad, but he won't cost a transfer fee — just his wages. So I thought why not give it a chance. He is determined to play in the Premier League. That can only be good for Palace and myself."

Bonetti started his career in England with Grimsby, but left for Tranmere after a dressing-room clash with then manager, Brian Laws.

Coppell was having a busy time in the transfer market. He snapped up the young Wolverhampton Wanderers full back, Jamie Smith, in a "straight two-for-one swap" as both Dougie Freedman and Kevin Muscat, the 24-year-old Australian, travelled to the Midlands.

"The Freedman deal has been mooted for a couple of weeks now," Coppell said. "In an ideal world, I would like to have kept Dougie, but his contract was up shortly and under the Bosman ruling, he would have been free to move. We had a similar situation with David Hopkin at the end of last season.

"At the moment we have got a surplus of right-backs and Mark McGhee needed to replace Jamie and Kevin wants first-team football."

Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, yesterday ruled Roy Keane, the Republic of Ireland midfield player, out of the World Cup finals next summer. Ferguson does not believe Keane can recover from the cruciate ligament injury in time to play in France, should the Republic beat Belgium in the play-offs.

"I think we could have him back training in April. Thereafter we have to really monitor the type of injury Roy has because it is such a bad injury.

"He will be back — there's no doubt about that — but I'm looking more to the start of next year," said Ferguson.

Asked if he felt that Keane would be competitively fit this season, Ferguson said that, at best, Keane would only be training.

"There's a big difference between normal training and football training and taking part in football, because the injury is a type of injury that needs a long recovery.

"It needs a really good rehabilitation period and you need luck too. Hopefully, these three things will fit in nicely for Roy and hopefully, when he does start training in April, there will be no signs of the injury."

Asked if Keane would be fit enough to play in the World Cup finals next June, Ferguson said: "I personally don't think so."

FOOTBALL: MERSEYSIDE CLUB FAVOURITES FOR COCA-COLA CUP AFTER FOURTH-ROUND DRAW

Liverpool convinced cup is real thing

BY DAVID MADDOCK

IT DOES not take much to become favourites for the Coca-Cola Cup: merely, it seems, an assertion that your club will not snigger at the very mention of the competition. When Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, suggested, therefore, that he would field his strongest possible side in the competition and his team was handed a home draw against Grimsby Town in the fourth round, the bookmakers could do little else but break for cover. Odds of 11-4 still look somewhat generous, given the rest of the draw.

Manchester United have already fallen by the wayside and, with Arsenal pursuing a policy of resting their leading players for the competition, the way looks invitingly open for Liverpool. The obvious dangers are Newcastle United and Chelsea, but both have been handed stern examinations against FA Carling Premiership rivals, Chelsea at home to Southampton and Newcastle an extremely tricky tie at fast-improving Derby County.

It all leaves Evans with an air of satisfaction, especially after the kind draw. "I know that other clubs have a different attitude, but we will try to win anything we enter," he said. "We have a tradition in this competition and it would be wrong not to honour it.

"We have won the trophy five times and I will select the strongest side to try to make it six. It is none of my business how other teams view the Coca-Cola Cup, but we want to win it. We are pleased to have a home draw, but I don't think we are obvious favourites. Grimsby will come to Anfield with their confidence high after a fine win over Leicester."

Such bullish sentiment will be music to the ears of the sponsor, but one still wonders if Evans has pitched it right. Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, could barely contain his joy after his side was knocked out of the competition by Ipswich Town on Tuesday, his broad smile speaking volumes.

With a Uefa Cup place no longer on offer, the obvious question remains, what is the point? Why should Liverpool embroil themselves in the heavy programme that success in the cup will bring, when they have far greater prizes to pursue. It is the Premiership that Evans must win if he is to secure his management tenure, not an empty day out at Wembley.

In saying that, there are plenty of clubs that would appreciate a trip to the twin towers before the grand old stadium is remodelled and the Football League has not yet given up hope of regaining a European berth for the winners.

Uefa has removed it from next season, but the Football League has petitioned the European Commission in Brussels in the hope of winning it back. Chris Hull, a League spokesman, asserted yesterday that there is still genuine confidence. "Our efforts in Brussels are going well," he said. "They have been very sympathetic and we really are very confident that the winners of the Coca-Cola Cup will qualify for Europe next season."

West Ham United, with a home draw against Walsall, are interesting 10-1 chances to lift the trophy, but perhaps the most attractive bet of all is the 5-1 available against Chelsea, even though the London club received some further bad news yesterday.

Gustavo Poyet, their Uruguay international, underwent an operation in Brussels after snapping knee ligaments in training and will be absent for the rest of the season. However, Ruud Gullit, the Chelsea manager, has already indicated that he does have money available to sign a replacement.

DRAW

FOURTH-ROUND DRAW: Leeds v Reading; Middlesbrough v Bolton; Chelsea v Southampton; Derby v Newcastle; West Ham v Walsall; Liverpool v Grimsby; Arsenal v Coventry; Oxford United v Ipswich.
To played in week of Nov 17

MARC ASPLAND

Poyet, right, of Chelsea, who will be out for the rest of the season after snapping knee ligaments in training

Anderton enjoys quick half

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

TOTTENHAM Hotspur received some overdue good news in a difficult season yesterday when Darren Anderton took part in his first competitive game since May.

The England winger, who has been out of action for five months because of a hamstring injury, played 45 minutes for the reserves against Norwich City without suffering any adverse reaction, but said that he was too short of match fitness to be considered for the FA Carling Premiership match against Sheffield Wednesday at White Hart Lane on Sunday.

"There's no point in my coming back because of a bad result for the team on Wednesday," Anderton said. "It's been a nightmare and I want to be out there, but I would be silly to come back too soon."

It had been planned that Anderton would play only the first half against Norwich and he admitted that he felt tired for the last 15 minutes. "It shows I'm not right to go straight in the first team," he said. "When I do return, I want to be completely right. There is another reserve game next Wednesday and that is my next target. Hopefully I can play for an hour, or even all of that one.

"I need to play for at least an hour before coming into consideration for the first team. The main thing for me is that the hamstring feels fine. It would be silly to go straight into a Premiership game."

Anderton: low-key return

His eventual return will go some way towards easing the air of gloom at Tottenham, which was exacerbated on Wednesday when they were beaten 2-1 by Derby County in the third round of the Coca-Cola Cup. Anderton has played fewer than 30 games for Tottenham in two years and his absence this season — alongside several other first-team players — has coincided with poor results and a mounting campaign by supporters against Gerry Francis, the manager.

Anderton showed glimpses of his quality in the low-key surroundings of Chigwell, firing in a 30-yard free kick that Bryan Gunn, the Norwich goalkeeper, tipped over. The match finished 1-1.

Breakaway clubs lose vote

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE proposed breakaway league in Scotland ran into procedural difficulties yesterday when a meeting of the Scottish League management committee descended into farce.

Each of the six premier division representatives were told that they could not vote on their individual club motions to resign from the Scottish League. Because of the precarious balance of power on the 12-man committee, it meant that Celtic, Rangers, Dundee United, Aberdeen, Hibernian and St Johnstone were defeated 6-5.

The four other premier division clubs without representatives — Dunfermline Athletic, Heart of Midlothian, Motherwell and Kilmarnock — were able to win their votes, but two required the casting decision of Doug Smith, the committee chairman and Dundee United vice-chairman.

Peter Donald, the Scottish League secretary, said that it was a principle of natural justice that any member putting forward a motion should not be allowed to vote on its outcome. "With the ten clubs putting forward identical resolutions there were ten votes, but in only four of those could all 12 members vote," he said. "The management committee felt unable to support the resolutions of six of the clubs and all voting was in accordance with prior precedent.

Doubts over the future of Roy Aitken as the manager of struggling Aberdeen increased yesterday, with the club's Supporters' Association adding its voice to the growing discontent.

"Our position remains as it always has been from the moment the clubs made clear they wanted to set up their own league. They have to persuade the 30 other member clubs that change is in their best interests and today's lost votes showed they have yet to do that."

The next stage for the management committee is to hold a special general meeting, when all clubs will be asked if the four given initial permission to resign can leave at the end of the season. It appears to leave the remaining six in limbo, but Campbell Ogilvie, of Rangers, said it would only delay the inevitable.

"What happened here was tactical voting," he said. "What we were trying to do was shorten the two-year period of giving notice to leave.

"Because of the sponsorship and television deals being up at the end of the season we wanted to move now. The ten premier clubs will meet in the next few days to decide on our next course of action."

Witton go in search of elusive cup-tie success

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL
BY WALTER GAMMIE

VICTORY in the first qualifying round of the FA Umbro Trophy tomorrow would help Witton Albion to end an unwanted cup run and shift the gloom of a turbulent 12 months at Wincham Park.

Witton, Trophy finalists in 1992 and semi-finalists in the years on either side, come into the competition at its earlier stage with a home tie against Farsley Celtic without having won a cup-tie of any description since beating Hyde United in the Cheshire Cup final in May 1996.

Eight consecutive losses make grim reading. Last season brought cup defeats at the first hurdle in the FA Cup, by Kidderminster Harriers, the Trophy, by Workington Town, the Unibond League Cup, Cheshire Senior Cup and mid-Cheshire Senior Cup.

This season, Witton, losing their exemption to the fourth qualifying round — sustained after a memorable appearance before Match of the Day cameras against Bolton Wanderers in 1991 — went down 5-0 to Gainsborough Trinity in the first qualifying round of the FA Cup. To add to their woe, Nantwich Town, of the Bass North West Counties League, dispatched them from the Cheshire Senior Cup 1-0 and Droylesden knocked them out of the Unibond League Cup 2-1.

Like many a club before them, Witton, fuelled by a new ground, opened in 1990, a three-year spell in the Vauxhall Conference and their cup runs, swallowed success greedily before suffering a hangover of substantial debts.

They thought that they had found a saviour in Terry Warrender, who had owned a locally-based aircraft services business. However, his 18-month spell ended last September in frustration at council opposition to plans to develop the club's 13-acre site. It was followed by the swift departure of Ray Ransom, the manager, and the break-up of the side. The club nose-dived to the Unibond first division.

Before the end of the season, Witton had been through Bryan Griffiths and Paul Bennett as managers. Before a ball was kicked this season, Kevin Tully, the new man in charge, had lost Nigel Deeley and John Bingham, his experienced assistants.

Their legacy was a vastly-improved squad, with Darren Washington, formerly of Congleton Town, topping the League's goal charts with 11, and Graham Abel, formerly with local rivals Northwich Victoria, and Kevin Langley arriving to give the team a solid look that has kept them among the division's front-runners.

To complete the restoration of self-respect, Witton now just need that elusive cup win. If the worst came to the worst against Farsley, they will, however, have the consolation of knowing all about their rivals, whom they have never played, when they travel to their ground for a league match the next week.

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CRICKET

Pakistan may turn to Rizvi for second Test

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

PAKISTAN have called up three spinners, including the uncapped Ali Rizvi, after preparing a turning pitch for the second Test match against South Africa that starts at Sheikhupura today.

After the first Test in the three-match series ended in a high-scoring draw at Rawalpindi, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) ordered the groundsman to prepare a pitch suitable for the home spinners. "The pitch has been prepared according to guidelines provided by the board," Mohammad Bashir, the chief groundsman, said yesterday.

The Municipal Stadium at Sheikhupura is staging only its second Test match and Bashir said that he expected the pitch to turn from the first day. "I hope this pitch will produce a result," he said.

Rizvi, a wrist spinner, who took 11 wickets for a PCB XI at Karachi in South Africa's opening tour match, joins Mushtaq Ahmed and Saqlain Mushtaq, the off spinner, in a squad of 13. Saeed Anwar, the Pakistan captain, said that Rizvi was full of promise. "He has the ability to make the ball bounce and turn on a helpful pitch," he said. The Karachi-born spinner enjoyed a successful tour of England with the Pakistan A team in the summer, taking 28 wickets.

Pakistan welcome back Wasim Akram, who returns to the first-class game after five months' absence because of a shoulder surgery. Wasim, now fully fit, has happy memories of the ground where, a year ago, he scored his career-best 257 not out against Zimbabwe.

The South Africans will not name their side until just before the start. "The pitch looks a definite turner but we have good spinners in Pat Symcox and Paul Adams and we have complete faith in their abilities," Bob Woolmer, the coach, said.

With Brett Shultz, the left-arm fast bowler, having already pulled out of the tour because of a shoulder problem, the two other players with fitness doubts are Dave Richardson, the wicketkeeper, and Allan Donald. The uncapped Mark Boucher has flown in as a possible replacement for Richardson, who is suffering from a hamstring injury.

Udal is set to lead Hampshire

SHAUN UDAL could become only the second Hampshire-born cricketer to captain the county this century after he emerged as favourite to replace John Stephenson.

Udal, the off spinner, was a member of England's last World Cup squad in Australia and is likely to succeed Stephenson, whose resignation was accepted by the Hampshire committee earlier this week.

Udal, 28, who was born in Farnborough, would be the first Hampshire man to lead the county since George Taylor in 1939. Udal said: "All the players were shocked at the way John decided to stand down. We have to look to the future of Hampshire cricket now."

Doubts remain over whether Stephenson, who has scored 2,287 runs and taken 109 wickets in first-class matches for the county, will remain with Hampshire. The former Essex and England opening batsman is heading for a three-month break in South Africa and said: "I'll be taking some time out to consider my options."

SPORT IN BRIEF

Zimbabwe triumph

ZIMBABWE emerged unbeaten at the end of the preliminary matches in the President's Cup three-nation cricket tournament in beating Kenya by seven wickets at the Aga Khan grounds in Nairobi yesterday. Zimbabwe cruised to 210 for three after 41.2 overs in reply to the Kenya innings of 207 for nine in 50 overs.

Asif Karim, the Kenya captain, dismissed the match as a mere formality, since Kenya had already qualified for the finals tomorrow and Sunday.

Champion Australia

HOCKEY: Australia beat Holland 3-1 to clinch first place in the six-nation Champions' Trophy in Adelaide yesterday. Stephen Davies opened the scoring for Australia and Paul Gaudoin put the home side 2-0 up in the 26th minute. Bram Lomans scored for Holland in the 35th minute before Paul Lewis secured victory for Australia. Danish Kaleen scored in the final minute to give Pakistan a 1-1 draw with Spain in the other match.

Happy homecoming

TENNIS: Martina Hingis made her first appearance in Switzerland as world No 1 yesterday, at the European indoor championships in Zurich, and swept to an easy victory in the second round. Hingis, who defended her first career singles title last week in Filderstadt, advanced to the quarter-finals by dispatching Anne-Gaelle Sidot, of France, 6-3, 6-2.

Stepping on the gas

POWERBOATING: Charles Burnett III, from London, yesterday broke his national record for gas unlimited class boats on Windermere. On the fourth day of the annual Powerboat Record Attempts Week, he took his offshore craft, Culture Vulture, up to 94.56mph, 20mph faster than he had achieved earlier in the week.

هكذا من الأصل

SAILING

Cayard proving to be worthy leader in word and deed

By Edward Gorman, Sailing Correspondent

THE Paul Cayard Show in the Whitbread Round the World Race continues. Apart from sailing away from the fleet, Cayard, from San Francisco, is proving a wonderful correspondent, sending back vibrant accounts as *EF Language* hurtles downwind towards the first leg stopover at Cape Town, now just 1,500 miles away.

Modern international yacht racing relies on sponsors and on skippers who are prepared to make an effort on their behalf. This comes naturally to Cayard who is showing that it is possible to sail to the limits, while also sharing the experience with the public. This is in stark contrast to Lawrie Smith, of Great Britain, who has said almost nothing since leaving Cowes four weeks ago and whose mid-fleet experiences aboard *Silk Cut* remain a mystery.

Yesterday Cayard extended his lead at the head of the ten-boat fleet from 70 miles to more than 100. Behind him, Grant Dalton, on *Merit Cup*, who has an advantage over Knut Frostad, on *Innovation Kvaerner*, of only ten miles, could only admire Cayard's performance over the previous two days. "He is sailing superbly well and he will be difficult to catch," Dalton said. "At this stage, we really need a change in the weather."

Cayard said: "The boat is flying. I have been thinking about how to describe it to my friends and family. No words can do the experience justice. The shuddering, not shaking, violent jerking of the boat throws people off their bunks. On deck, you can't tell if this thing is a boat or a submarine. Because of the water ballast, it sails quite upright and fast at a relatively high angle. The decks are completely awash, sometimes up to one metre. When we change headsails and the boys go forward, you wonder how they can make headway for the force of water.

"Last night I steered for four hours and never have I been pelted with a fire hose like that. Several times people simply get washed away until their safety harness fetches up. Everything is wet. You don't sleep, you rest out of the wind and water. Everything is stacked aft now, trying to keep the bow from submarining. The waves are 15 feet high. This is a sleigh ride like you can't imagine."

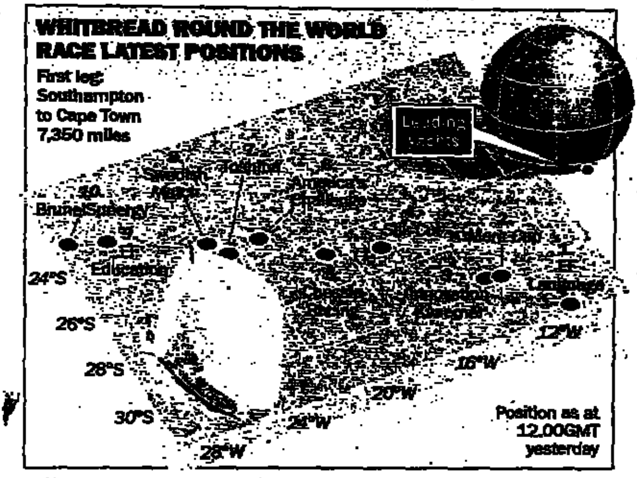
Cayard added that *EF Language* is regularly touching 30 knots and, at a mere 18 knots, the crew have come to regard themselves as going slowly. He credited his navigator, Mark Rudiger, for investing in a more southerly position than *Merit* and *Kvaerner* after rounding the island of Trindade, which has proved the secret of their recent success.

The fleet is now spread over an enormous area of ocean. Smith remains comfortable in fourth place, but he is 320 miles behind Cayard. *Chessie Racing* (Mark Fischer) is another 150 miles behind the British boat in fifth, while *America's Challenge* (Ross Field) is another 130 miles farther back.

The all-women crew of *EF Education*, lying in ninth place, was clocked at 927.6 miles behind Cayard yesterday morning while the Dutch crew on *BrunelSunergy* is more than 1,000 miles adrift in last, though they did have to divert to Recife for rudder repairs.

WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE LATEST POSITIONS

First leg: Southampton to Cape Town 7,350 miles



DISTANCE TO FINISH (with miles to Cape Town): 1, EF Language (Swe) 1,491.9; 2, Merit Cup (Monaco) 1,607.2; 3, Innovation Kvaerner (Nor) 1,624.2; 4, Silk Cut (GB) 1,835.4; 5, Chessie Racing (US) 1,980.4; 6, America's Challenge (US) 2,142.5; 7, Toshiba (US) 2,159.7; 8, Swedish Match (Swe) 2,229.3; 9, EF Education (Swe) 2,444.8; 10, BrunelSunergy (Holl) 2,539.9.

GOLF

Webb shares first-round lead

By Our Sport Staff

KARRIE WEBB, from Australia, and Juli Inkster, of the United States, were sharing the lead after the first round of the LPGA world championship at the Lakeside Country Club in Seoul, South Korea. Both went round in 67, five under par, yesterday.

Webb had two bogeys and seven birdies in her round. "I had a good feeling over the putter," she said. Inkster dropped only one shot and hit six birdies.

Chris Johnson, of the United States, was one stroke behind the pair after a first-round of 68, followed by Kelly Robbins, another American, who shot a 69.

Annika Sorenstam, the two-time defending champion from Sweden, was tied in fifth place with her compatriot, Helen Alfredsson, on 70. "I still feel confident. It's only Thursday," Sorenstam said.

Alison Nicholas, of Great Britain, was a further shot behind, after a first round of 71, one under par.

☐ Tommy Horton will be chasing his sixth title of the season in the Senior Tournament of Champions, which starts at The Buckinghamshire Club today.

Horton, who spent last month as assistant to Severiano Ballesteros, the Europe Ryder Cup captain, has already won the senior order of merit for the second successive season. "I would like my long-shafted putter to stay hot for just one more week," Horton, from Jersey, said yesterday.

BOWLS

Thomson benefits from preparation

By David Rhys Jones

ANDY THOMSON, the world's top-ranked player, brought a new intensity to the portable rink at the Guild Hall, Preston, yesterday, when he defeated Graham Robertson 7-1, 7-5 and booked a place in the quarter-finals of the Bupa Care Homes Open.

Many bowlers believe that the fine touch that is required for the indoor game is not easily acquired after a summer season spent hurling bowls through long grass and this tournament is too early in the winter season for many people's tastes.

The outdoor season drags on until the end of September, but when he was knocked out of the national outdoor singles championship in Worthing at the end of August, Thomson decided to call it a day, packed his waterproofs away and concentrated his energy on his preparation for the indoor season.

"My first big tournament was the Soham Masters in September and I put a lot of effort into getting myself ready for that," Thomson said yesterday. "It all paid off, because I hit top form and won the event. It couldn't have been a better start to the season."

Yesterday the Anglo-Scot appeared formidably focused in his bid to add the Open title to the two world indoor singles titles that he has already won on the portable rink.

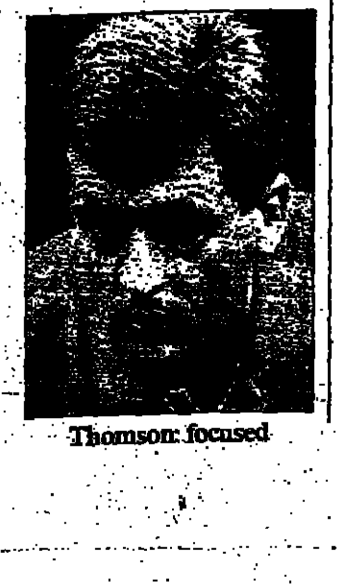
Robertson, a dour opponent, tested him to the full, but scored on only four of the 13 ends. David Gourlay, the 1996 world indoor singles champion, was equally impressive, beating Rowan Brassey, a talented New Zealander, 7-0, 7-2.

Gourlay had been pushed all the way by Norma Shaw, the women's world indoor singles champion, on Tuesday night and had to pull out the stops to stay in the match, killing the end when Shaw, 3-0 up in the deciding set, drew four bowls around the jack.

This time, Gourlay drew as if his woods were attracted to the jack and continually forced Brassey to do the firing. In the quarter-finals today, Gourlay plays Steve Glasson, who beat him in the Australian Jack High tournament earlier this year.

Two PBA qualifiers, Les Gillett, from the Banbury club, and Nigel Williams, from Swansea, who had both beaten seeded Australians in the first round, looked nervous as they vied for a place in the quarter-finals.

Gillett, who did not score in the second set, won the first and third sets by the same 7-6 scoreline but will have to raise his game if he is to trouble the holder, Hugh Duff, when they meet in the last-eight stage today.


Thomson: focused

Thomas Muster makes a backhand return on his way to victory over Paul Haarhuis, of Holland, in the Czech indoor tournament in Ostrava yesterday. The Austrian, seeded fourth, was a 6-3, 7-6 victor and will play Diego Nargiso, a qualifier from Italy, in the quarter-finals. Nargioso, who is ranked No 248 in the world, was the surprise victor over Petr Korda, the local favourite, by 4-6, 6-2, 7-6. Sergi Bruguera, the second seed from Spain, beat Jeff Tarango, of the United States, 7-6, 3-6, 6-4 and Goran Ivanisevic, the third seed from Croatia, had a walkover after Martin Damm, another Czech, defaulted for health reasons. Meanwhile, in Lyon, Cedric Pioline, of France, beat his compatriot, Arnaud Clement, in the second round of the indoor tournament. Clement was unable to reproduce the form that saw him defeat Patrick Rafter, the US Open champion, in the first round and went down 6-2, 6-2. Pioline will now face Mark Philippoussis, the No 7 seed from Australia, who beat Richey Reneberg, of the United States, 4-6, 7-6, 6-4 yesterday. Thomas Enqvist, the fifth seed from Sweden, beat Todd Martin 7-5, 6-3.

BADMINTON: LOTTERY MONEY GIVES YOUNG LEADER THE POWER HE NEEDS FOR A REVOLUTION

Baddeley's mission to awaken sleeping giant

By Richard Eaton

EVER since Lady Henrietta Somerset kept a shuttle in the air 2,000 times in the Front Hall more than 160 years ago, thereby helping to lend the name of the Duke of Beaufort's stately home to a popular game, badminton has lived through plenty of revolutions. However, the one galvanised by the appointment this month of Steve Baddeley as chief executive of the Badminton Association of England (BAE) is potentially the most far-reaching of all.

Baddeley, 36, has unexpectedly become one of the youngest leaders in British sport. Lottery funds have given him, in his own words: "A thousand per cent increase in the budget," which means about a million pounds to spend in one year. As a result he has glimpsed a vista which, if not vigorously pursued, may never reveal itself again.

The chance of converting some of the game's five million casual adherents into fee-paying players could revive hopes of awaking something that has been a sleeping giant. And the possibility of being able to restore England somewhere nearer to the top four nations it was a decade and a half ago, should raise hopes of making badminton much better known.

Hence the five-match series against China next week is a landmark. It is the first high-quality event of a new era and four new caps have been named. The bad boys of last season, Nathan Robertson and Ian Sullivan, dropped from the national squads for drinking, late nights and poor commitment, but now with a more optimistic and more professional attitude, have been reinstated.

More important than the outcome of a series which is usually a mixture of competition, exhibition and promotion, will be the mood it creates.

If the present batch of players are good enough to turn things around — something widely doubted — then they need to start believing it now. Belief has been one of Baddeley's strengths. "People may be shaken by his determination to succeed," said the BAE chairman, John Havers. "As chief executive he will be similar to the person you saw on the court. He knew the limits of his talent but made the most of it and got about 98 per cent of it."

Baddeley: big task

This quality most of all made Baddeley this country's most successful men's singles player since the war. It enabled him to become director of a successful world championships at a venue, Lausanne, which many thought too much of a badminton backwater to host a major event.

It has also spurred Baddeley to build, within one year of becoming England's Director of Elite Play, the best behind-the-scenes set-up it has ever had. With the great Korean, Park Joo-Bong, the Dane Asger Madsen, and Baddeley's former England colleague, Steve Butler, among the voting staff.

Many thought Baddeley would continue in that role for at least two more years. His predecessor as chief executive Geoffrey Snowdon wanted to carry on and even before starting his new job Baddeley read in the association's magazine that he was not ready for such an onerous task.

But both the executive committee and the council of the BAE believe the new money and the millennial optimism make a calculated gamble worth taking. It is probably now or never if years of decline are to be reversed.

Nevertheless for Baddeley to retain responsiblity for elite play while taking on the executive role as well is asking a great deal. Britain's first Olympic medals, an increase in affiliated players, a higher profile and great sponsorship are the alluring targets — but is not all that beyond one person to achieve? Delegation, rather than determination, is the key.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Play-offs: Cleveland 1 Baltimore 0 (*Cleveland win best-of-seven series 4-2*).

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Thames Valley 88 Manchester Giants 80.

NATIONAL CUP: Fourth round: Plymouth Raiders 77 London Towers 99.

BOWLS

PRESTON GUILD HALL: Bupa Care Homes Open Championship: Second round: J Price (Wales) bt A Allcock (Eng) 7-0, 7-3; S Glasson (Aus) bt M King (Eng) 7-5, 6-7, 7-5; R Weale (Wales) bt W Mellors (Scot) 3-7, 7-3, 7-6; A Thomson (Eng) bt G Robertson (Scot) 7-1, 7-5; L Gillett (Eng) bt N Williams (Wales) 7-6, 0-7, 7-6; D Gourlay (Scot) bt R Brassey (NZ) 7-0, 7-2.

CRICKET

President's Cup

Bangladesh v Zimbabwe

NAIROBI (*Zimbabwe won toss*): Zimbabwe beat Kenya by seven wickets

KENYA

D Chudasama c A Flower b Mbangwa	5
S O Tikolo c Evans b B C Strang	6
A Vadher c A Flower b G J Whittal	9
M Odumbe c G J Whittal b Evans	2
H Modi lbw b G J Whittal	1
T Odoyo c Rennie b B C Strang	41
T Suji c and b G J Whittal	67
*A Karim st A Flower b A Whittal	5
M Suji not out	9
M Sheikh not out	5
Extras (b 4, lb 3, w 10, nb 6)	23
Total (8wkts, 50 overs)	207

†K Otieno did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-22 2-35 3-64 4-64 5-68 6-68 7-187 8-188 9-200.

BOWLING: B C Strang 10-1-48-2; Mpumalo 8-3-24-2; G J Whittal 10-1-43-3; C Evans 2-1-3-1; P A Strang 8-1-18-0; A Whittal 8-0-41-1; G Flower 4-0-23-0.

ZIMBABWE

G W Flower lbw b Sheikh	71
A Flower c Angara b Tikolo	66
G J Rennie c Odoyo b Karim	27
G J Whittal not out	20
A D R Campbell not out	5
Extras (b 7, lb 5, w 5, nb 4)	21
Total (3 wkts, 41.2 overs)	210

C B Wishart, P A Strang, C E Evans, B C Strang, A Whittall and M Mbangwa did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-124, 2-170, 3-200.

BOWLING: Owili 5-0-22-0; T Suji 2-0-9-0; Odoyo 10-0-38-0; Karim 10-0-39-1, Odumbe 4-0-19-0; Tikolo 4 2-0-29-1; M Sheikh 10-0-42-1.

Umpires: M Kitchen (Eng), Selim Badar (Pak)

SHEFFIELD SHIELD (second day of four): Brisbane: New South Wales 484 (M A Taylor 124, M G Bevan 153, M S Kasprowicz 4-129); Queensland 133-0 (M L Hayden 76 not out, M L Love 52 not out) Adelaide: Tasmania 301 (P Wilson 53-4); South Australia 336-6 (D S Lehmann 131, J D Siddons 91).

CYCLING

MILAN TO TURIN RACE (207km): 1, L Jalabert (Fr, ONCE) 4hr 54min 56sec; 2, A Zülle (Switz, ONCE) same time; 3, P Lanfranchi (It, Mapei) at 22sec; 4, X Jan (Fr, Française des Jeux); 5, W Belli (It, Brescialat); 6, P Veloti (It, Cantina) all same time.

TOUR OF PIEDMONT (200km, starting and finishing in Turin): 1, G Bortolami (It, Festina) 4hr 23min 40sec; 2, P Lanfranchi (It, Mapei) at 2sec; 3, B Conte (It, Scrigno) 23; 4, C Henn (Ger, Telekom); 5, P Ugrumov (Russ, Roslotto); 6, G Gwiazdowski (Pol, Cofidis) same time.

FOOTBALL

Wednesday's late results

COCA-COLA CUP: Third round: Chelsea 1 Blackburn 1 (aet; 1-1 after 90min; Chelsea win 4-1 on pens); Coventry 4 Everton 1; Middlesbrough 2 Sunderland 0; Newcastle 2 Hull 0; Stoke 1 Leeds 3 (aet; 1-1 after 90min); Tottenham Hotspur 1 Derby 2; West Bromwich 0 Liverpool 2; West Ham 3 Aston Villa 0.

SCOTTISH COCA-COLA CUP: Semi-final: Aberdeen 1 Dundee United 3

FA CUP: Third qualifying round replay: Lincoln United 4 Marine 1; Croydon 2 Bognor Regis 2 (aet; 2-2 after 90min; Bognor Regis win 3-1 on pens).

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop Auckland 4 Frickley 1, Gainsborough 0 Guiseley 1. First division: Bradford P A 0 Eastwood Town 1

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Midland division: RC Warwick 3 Paget 0; Raunds 0 VS Rugby 2: Solihull Boro 3 Moor Green 2. Southern division: Baldock 2 Witney 3; Dartford 1 Margate 0; Newport AFC 1 Weston-super-Mare 2. Cup: Preliminary round, first leg: Havant 1 Weymouth 1.

ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE: Third division: Harlow 2 Wingate and Finchley 2.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Luton 1 Charlton 4; Oxford United 4 Chelsea 1; Swindon 1 Ipswich 1.

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: First division: Huddersfield 0 Oldham 1. Second division: Burnley 4 Barnsley 0; Rochdale 2 Wrexham 1, Shrewsbury 2 York 0, Stockport 3 Sheffield United 4. Third division: Chester 2 Walsall 2; Scarborough 0 Scunthorpe 3; Wigan 3 Bury 2.

INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Invitation Cup: Stapenhill 2 Walsall Wood 1.

COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Feltham 1 Ashford 6.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Canterbury 0 Tunbridge Wells 0; Sheppey 5 Deal 2.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Hassocks 2 Wick 1.

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Meir K A 3 Boldmere Swifts 1; Worcester 4 Wellesbourne 0.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Cowes Sports 2 Eastleigh 0.

GILBERT LEAGUE CUP: First round, first leg: Flint Town 3 Welshpool 1; Rhayader Town 1 Carmarthen Town 1.

FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Quarter-finals: Home Farm 3 Cobh Ramblers 2 (aet: 2-2 after 90mins).

NATIONWIDE GOLD CUP: Section C: Cliftonville 1 Portadown 1

FA YOUTH CUP: Second qualifying round: Hoddesdon 5 East Thurrock 1. Second qualifying round replay: Burton 3 Bromsgrove 2 (aet; 2-2 after 90 mins); Walton and Hersham 2 Staines 1; Sutton 2 Camberley 1; Welling 2 Sittingbourne 1.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Fuji Film Trophy: Second round: Torbay 5 West Cornwall 2. Hartlepool Hospital Cup: Middlesbrough 3 Stockton 1.

UEFA CUP: First round, second leg: Replay: Spartak Moscow (Russ) 5 Sion (Switz) 1 (Spartak Moscow win 8-1 on agg)

ITALIAN CUP: Third round, first leg: Atalanta 3 Bologna 1; Fiorentina 1 Pescara 0; Udinese 2 AS Roma 2; Juventus 2 Lecce 0; Piacenza 0 Internazionale 3; Parma 2 Bari 1.

SPANISH LEAGUE: Real Sociedad 2 Celta Vigo 1; Deportivo La Coruña 1 Real Valladolid 3; Salamanca 0 Oviedo 2; Atlético Madrid 4 Merida 0; Español 1 Compostela 0; Sporting Gijon 0 Real Madrid 2; Valencia 1 Athletic Bilbao 1; Betis 3 Real Zaragoza 3; Tenerife 2 Racing Santander 2.

GERMAN LEAGUE: MSV Duisburg 0 Hansa Rostock 1; FC Kaiserslautern 3 Arminia Bielefeld 1; Bayern Munich 3 VfB Stuttgart 3; Borussia Mönchengladbach 5 1860 Munich 1.

DUTCH LEAGUE: FC Utrecht 2 SC Heerenveen 4; De Graafschap Doetinchem 2 Sparta Rotterdam 2; Roda JC Kerkrade 2 PSV Eindhoven 2; RKC Waalwijk 0 NEC Nijmegen 0; Ajax 1 NAC Breda 0.

BELGIAN CUP: First round: Harelbeke 4 Lokeren 1; Patro Eisden 3 RWD Molenbeek 1; Gent 4 Aalst 3 (aet); Lierse 5 Strombeek 1; Cercle Bruges 1 Mouscron 2 (aet); Saint-Nicolas 2 Beveren 5; Saint-Trond 4 Courtrai 0; Genk 2 RC Lebbeke 1; Neeroeteren 1 Merchtem 0; Royal Antwerp 4 Charleroi 2; Anderlecht 2 Westerlo 1; Tielen 1 Denderleeuw 2; Diest 1 Eksaren 5; Mechelen 2 Lommel 0.

HOCKEY

ADELAIDE: Champions Trophy: Spain 1 Pakistan 1; Australia 3 Holland 1

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Carolina 3 Buffalo 3 (OT); Toronto 4 Detroit 3; Florida 2 Tampa Bay 1; Montreal 1 Pittsburgh 1 (OT); Ottawa 5 New York Rangers 1; Washington 2 Chicago 0; Colorado 5 Edmonton 2; Anaheim 2 Philadelphia 2 (OT); Boston 5 Los Angeles 3.

MOTOR RACING

JAPANESE GRAND PRIX: Revised world championship positions: Drivers': 1, M Schumacher (Ger) 78pts; 2, J Villeneuve (Can) 77; 3, H-H Frentzen (Ger) 41; 4, J Alesi (Fr) 36; 5, D Coulthard (GB) 30; 6, G Berger (Ger) 24

SHOOTING

BISLEY: Trafalgar Trophy (teams at 300, 600, 900 and 1000 yards): 1, Royal Navy 1688.130pts (J Mackay 175.18); 2, Royal Marines 1628.109 (R Hughes 178.20) Farewell to Arms meeting (teams of three): 1, RAF 3,340, 2, BPC 3,294; 3, London and Middlesex 3,291, 4, British women's pistol association 3,272.

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas: Close quarter rifle (individual): 1, Cpl A de Cross (TA) 187; 2, Cpl C McKee (Royal Irish Regiment) 186; 3, Major A McLeod (Royal Scots) 185. Teams: 1, South Africa 704; 2, Regular Army 703; 3, Territorial Army 702. Precision combat rifle (individual): 1, Sgt D Ross (TA) 240.23. Teams: 1, Regular Army 909.

SNOOKER

BOURNEMOUTH INTERNATIONAL CENTRE: Grand Prix: First round: Second round: P Davies (Wales) bt A Robidoux (Can) 5-1; S Davis (Eng) bt P Lines (Eng) 5-3, M Williams (Wales) bt M Judge (Ire) 5-2; A Drago (Malta) bt E Henderson (Scot) 5-2; M Price (Eng) bt A Dawes (Wales) 5-3; A McManus (Scot) bt S Pettman (Eng) 5-2; M King (Eng) bt C MacGillivray (Scot) 5-2; A Burden (Eng) bt G Wilkinson (Eng) 5-3; J Higgins (Scot) bt L Griffin (Eng) 5-1; N Bond (Eng) bt D Gray (Eng) 5-2; C Small (Scot) bt D Taylor (N Ire) 5-0; P Hunter (Eng) bt M Clark (Eng) 5-1; B Morgan (Eng) bt P McCullagh (Eng) 5-0; W Thorne (Eng) bt K Doherty (Ire) 5-4; D Dale (Wales) bt A Hicks (Eng) 5-3; J Wattana (Thai) bt S O'Connor (Ire) 5-4; J Parrott (Eng) bt D Henry (Scot) 5-1; Q Hann (Aus) bt J Swail (N Ire) 5-2; D Roe (Eng) bt N Foulds (Eng) 5-1; J Birch (Eng) bt P Ebdon (Eng) 5-3

SPEEDWAY

POOLE: John Scott International Trophy: England 49 United States 47.

YOUNG SHIELD: First round, second leg: Long Eaton 48 Arena Essex 42 (Long Eaton win 92-87 on agg).

SQUASH

ALEXANDRIA: Egyptian Open: Quarter-finals: Jansher Khan (Pak) bt A Barada (Egypt) 10-15, 15-10, 15-13, 15-12; P Nicol (Scot) bt S Parke (Eng) 11-15, 15-8, 15-7, 15-12; J Power (Can) bt A Hill (Aus) 15-7, 15-8, 15-9; D Harris (Eng) bt J Bonetat (Fr) 15-13, 15-6, 15-8.

SYDNEY: Women's world championship: First round: S Wright (Eng) bt T Weeks (Aus) 10-9, 9-3, 9-7, P Beams (NZ) bt N Tippett (Aus) 9-3, 6-9, 9-0, 9-7; L Irving (Aus) bt M Zein (Egypt) 9-3, 9-6, 9-0; N Grainger (SA) bt P Pancis (Austria) 9-3, 9-3, 9-4; F Geaves (Eng) bt V Cardwell (Aus) 9-0, 9-4, 9-4; S Horner (Eng) bt E Major (Aus) 9-1, 9-3, 9-7; S Fitz-Gerald (Aus) bt N Meneu (Sp) 9-1, 9-0, 9-0; R Cooper (Aus) bt S Cook (NZ) 9-7, 9-4 ret. Second round: Wright (Eng) bt Beams 9-3, 9-1, 9-0; Irving bt Grainger 9-6, 9-4, 2-9, 9-6; C Owens (Aus) bt J Martin (Eng) 8-10, 6-9, 9-2, 9-4, 9-2; C Jackman (Eng) bt C Nitch (SA) 9-2, 9-5, 10-8; Horner bt Geaves 9-2, 4-9, 9-4, 9-1, M Martin (Aus) bt L Joyce (NZ) 9-5, 9-3, 9-0; Fitz-Gerald bt Cooper 9-3, 9-3, 9-5, S Schöne (Ger) bt L Charman (Eng) 9-4, 9-0, 9-4.

TENNIS

OSTRAVA: Men's tournament: First round: G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt J Siemerink (Holl) 5-7, 6-3, 6-3; S Bruguera (Sp) bt P Luxa (Cz) 6-3, 6-3; T Muster (Austria) bt P Kralert (Cz) 6-1, 6-3; B Ulihrach (Cz) bt M Rosset (Switz) 6-3, 6-2. Second round: K Kucera (Slovakia) bt K Carlsen (Den) 6-3, 6-7, 7-6; J Novak (Cz) bt C Moyà (Sp) 6-4, 6-4; Muster bt P Haarhuis (Holl) 6-3, 7-6; M Norman (Swe) bt D Prinosil (Ger) 6-2, 6-4; Ivanisevic (Cro) w/o M Damm (Cz) scr; S Bruguera (Sp) bt J Tarango (US) 7-6, 3-6, 6-4; D Nargiso (It) bt P Korda (Cz) 4-6, 6-2, 7-6; B Ulihrach (Cz) bt J Kroslak (Slovakia) 6-4, 6-2.

LYONS: Men's tournament: First round: C Pioline (Fr) bt S Grosjean (Fr) 4-6, 7-5, 6-3; T Henman (GB) bt G Raoux (Fr) 6-1, 1-0 ret. Second round: F Mantilla (Sp) bt L Roux (Fr) 7-5, 6-1; T Haas (Ger) bt J Alonso (Sp) 6-2, 6-3; T Enqvist (Swe) bt T Martin (US) 7-5, 6-3; M Philippoussis (Aus) bt R Reneberg (US) 4-6, 7-6, 6-4, Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt F Wibier (Holl) 6-3, 6-4; Pioline bt A Clement (Fr) 6-2, 6-2

ZURICH: Women's tournament: First round: D van Roost (Bel) bt A Sánchez Vicario (Sp) 7-5, 5-7, 6-4. Second round: J Novotna (Cz) bt A Sugiyama (Japan) 6-0, 6-7, 6-2; S Kleinova (Cz) bt I Spirlea (Rom) 3-6, 5-1 ret; M Hingis (Switz) bt A-G Sidot (Fr) 6-3, 6-2; S Kleinova (Cz) bt I Spirlea (Rom) 3-6, 5-1 ret; L Raymond (US) bt A Coetzer (SA) 7-5, 6-3, N Tauziat (Fr) bt Van Roost (Bel) 6-3, 6-7, 7-5.

SOUTHAMPTON: LTA Women's challenger tournament (GB unless stated): O Barabanschikova (Bela) bt J Pullin 6-2, 6-1; K Cross bt M Lamarre (Fr) 6-1, 7-6, M Schnitzer (Ger) bt S Smith 5-7, 6-3, 7-6; E Koulikovskaya (Russ) bt A Janes 6-2, 4-6, 6-4; E Tatarkova (Ukr) bt E Loit (Fr) 6-3, 6-3; L Courtois (Bel) bt M Babel (Ger) 6-0, 7-5; E Curutchet (Fr) bt S Prazeres (Por) 6-2, 6-2, O Lugina (Ukr) bt J Ward 7-5, 6-1, L Woodroffe bt M Shaughnessy (US) 6-3, 2-1 ret. N Dechy (Fr) bt S Siddall 6-3, 6-4, A Cocheteux (Fr) bt K Nowak (Pol) 6-4, 6-2; S Kloesel (Ger) bt S Nacuk (Yug) 6-4, 4-6, 7-6; K Boogert (Holl) bt G Navratilova (Cz) 6-3, 6-0; L Ahl bt R Sandu (Rom) 6-4, 6-0; L Cenkova (Cz) bt H Collin 6-4, 6-3; B Rittner (Ger) bt M Golovizinina (Russ) 7-6, 7-5. Second round: Barabanschikova bt Cross 6-2, 6-1; Woodroffe bt Schnitzer 6-2, 6-3; Nacuk bt Cocheteux 1-6, 6-4, 6-1, Boogert bt Curutchet 6-1, 6-1; Koulikovskaya bt Dechy 6-2, 6-1, Tatarkova bt Courtois 6-2, 7-5; Lugina bt Ahl 6-2, 7-5, Cenkova bt Rittner 6-4, 2-6, 7-6

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Nationwide League

Second division

Bristol City v York (7.45)

Carlisle v Preston (7.45)

FA UMBRO TROPHY: First qualifying round: Moor Green v Atherstone; Paget R v Bilston.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: S and L Corby v M Blackstone.

FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Drogheda v Shamrock (7.45); Shelbourne v Sligo (7.45)

SCHOOLS MATCH: Fuji Film Trophy: Second-round replay: Reading v Bournemouth (at Palmer Park, 7.45pm).

RUGBY UNION

SRU Inter-district championship

Scottish Borders v Caledonia (at Riverside, Jedburgh, 7.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

World club championship

Final

Brisbane v Hunter Mariners (8.0am, at Auckland)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Manchester Giants v Crystal Palace (7.30). Worthing Bears v London Leopards (8.0)

GOLF: Alfred Dunhill Cup (at St Andrews)

ICE HOCKEY: Benson and Hedges Cup: Quarter-final, first leg: Sheffield Steelers v Cardiff Devils (7.30).

SNOOKER: Grand Prix (at Bournemouth).

SPEEDWAY: Craven Shield: First round, second leg: Belle Vue (30) v Swindon (60). Young Shield: Semi-final, first leg: Edinburgh v Long Eaton. Individual: Essex junior championship (at Arena Essex, 8.0). Amateur League: Oxford v Ipswich and King's Lynn (7.30); Oxford v Exeter and Newport (8.45).

TENNIS: LTA women's challenger tournament (at Southampton).

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 43

SHERLOCKIANA

HORACE HARKER

(c) A reporter of the Central Press Syndicate. He resided at 131 Pitt Street, Kensinton in *The Six Napoleons*. Early one morning he was stunned to find his plaster cast of Devine's head of Napoleon missing and a murdered man sprawled on his doorstep. He was so upset that he could not cover his own story.

STEILER

(b) Peter Steiler, manager of the Englischer Hof in Meiringen, Switzerland in *The Final Problem*. "It was on the third of May [1891] that we reached the little village of Meiringen, where we put up at the Englischer Hof, then kept by Peter Steiler the elder. Our landlord was an intelligent man and spoke excellent English, having served for three years as waiter at the Grosvenor Hotel in London."

DUNDAS SEPARATION

(b) An unchronicled case in which Holmes was engaged, mentioned in *A Case of Identity*. "The husband was a teetotaler, there was no other woman, and the conduct complained of was that he had drifted into the habit of winding up every meal by taking out his false teeth and hurling them at his wife."

DIOGENES

(b) A London Club situated in Pall Mall, of which Mycroft Holmes was a founding member. "There are many men in London, you know, who, some from shyness, some from misanthropy, have no wish for the company of their fellows. Yet they are not averse to comfortable chairs and the latest periodicals. It is for the convenience of these that the Diogenes Club was started, and it now contains the most unsociable and unclubbable men in town."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 ... Qxf2+! 2 Rxf2 Rxe1+ 3 Rf1 Rexf1+ 4 Qxf1 Bh2+! 5 Kxh2 Rxf1 with an easy win on material.

هكذا من الإصل

Hollywood to hail boxer who beat life-threatening injuries

Star is born as Pazienza wins fight for his life

By Srikumar Sen, boxing correspondent

IF EVER there was a boxer *who stepped out of a movie, it* is Vinnie Pazienza. There is nothing about the fast-talking, wise-cracking, 34-year-old from Rhode Island that is not stranger than fiction. The former International Boxing Federation (IBF) world lightweight champion, who is now *campaigning* as a super-middleweight, is not just a *throw-back to the good old* days of boxing, he is also cast in the mould of the tough Italian fighters of the Forties and Fifties — Marciano, La Motta, Graziano, Basilio.

Pazienza arrived in London *yesterday to publicise his bout* with Herol Graham, of Sheffield, on *December* 6. "*After I* beat Graham I want to fight Robin Reid, as he is the WBC [World Boxing Council] champion," Pazienza said. "It's a green belt. I want it badly as it matches the colour of my couch at home."

If Graham's rediscovery of his youthful ener*gy and enthusiasm* against the world-rated Chris Johnson last July was incredible, the fact that Pazienza is fighting at all is little short of miraculous.

The courage and determination that he showed in getting back into the ring after a car accident in Rhode Island *in 1991 is the very stuff of* movies. Indeed, Hollywood is already making a film of his career entitled *Life and Soul*, with Christian Slater playing the lead.

The doctors said that Pazienza *would never* walk again. His neck and spine were shattered and he was in serious danger of being paralysed for life. Jim Burchfield, his manager, said: "His head and body was only held together *by a thin nerve. If that* had gone he would have been *dead or paralysed*. The doctors said: 'Vinnie you're never *going to fight again*', and Vinnie said: 'Doc, you don't know. I am Vinnie Pazienza — I'm going to fight again'."

Pazienza put on 20lbs in hospital, eating chocolates, and went home after a month wearing a steel head brace with four screws embedded *half an inch into his skull that* held metal pipes around his head. *Despite* opposition from his family and doctors, he started training secretlyat his home. One day he was found lifting weights using his neck *muscles*. He was *invited* by Foxwood's Casino to use its *health and training facilities* in Connecticut. "It *was not to see if he* could fight, but just to see if he could get into shape," Burchfield said. "Then the doctor gave the ap*proval to spar*. The accident also gave Vinnie another comfort level of a new weight. He always had trouble making the weight and every time he lost a fight it *was because of this problem*. He had so much trouble making the weight that he developed an ulcer." Although Pazienza became world cham*pion* at lightweight, making 9st 6lb left him dehydrated.

Pazienza came back in 1992 as a middleweight and strung nine wins together, including victories against LLoyd Honeyghan, Robbie Sims, Dan Sherry and Roberto Duran, twice. The most *quoted words of the* "Pazmanian Devil" are: "It's like I'm always on the inside of a coffin trying to get out. I'm always trying to overcome some obstacle all the time. The war is only over when you quit *and I never quit*."

> 'The war is only over when you quit — and I never quit'

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Pazienza talks about his incredible life at his press conference yesterday

After being stopped in six *rounds by Roy Jones, the IBF* super-middleweight champion, in June 1995, Pazenzia surprised the experts by beating Dana Rosenblatt in four rounds in Atlantic City in August last year, but earned a $5,000 *fine and* a 90-day suspension, from the New *Jersey State Athletic Commission* for knocking down the referee, Tony Orlando. Pazienza didnot stop hitting Rosenblatt once he had him *going and, when* Orlando stepped in to save Rosenblatt *from further punishment*, he received two blows and slumped to the floor.

Pazienza said yesterday: "I like Tony Orlando a lot, but Larry Hazzard [the New Jersey Commissioner] sent the *letter three* weeks *after the* fight that I was suspended and *that I* would have to pay a small fine. So I wrote back to him pleading temporary insanity. If people can get off murder raps for temporary *insanity* I was sure I could get off throwing two punches after the *ref jumped in*."

As Pazienza has not yet paid the *fine, he is still suspended* and will not be able to box in London until it is. Frank Maloney, the promoter of the London bout, who is prepared to offer Reid, *and* Joe Calzaghe, the World Boxing Organisation *champion, $1* million to face the winner of the Graham-Pazienza bout, should not have too much trouble in finding $5,000 to see that the contest goes ahead.

RUGBY LEAGUE

McDermott gets Great Britain call

By Our Sports Staff

BRIAN McDERMOTT has been called into the Great Britain squad for the British Gas international series against Australia next month. The 27-year-old Bradford Bulls prop forward has been brought *into the* 22-man squad after the refusal of Western Suburbs to release the former Leeds and Widnes forward, Harvey Howard.

McDermott, who toured the southern hemisphere with Britain a year ago, *joined up* with Andy Goodway's squad at their north Manchester training centre yesterday.

Phil Lowe, the Britain manager, said: "With a little more than three weeks before the first international, we decided that we could not wait to see if Harvey *was released. Brian* had a big season for the Bulls and we are very happy that he was available to come into the squad. His game is direct and strong, which will make him the ideal kind of player to face Australia."

Britain are still waiting to hear from the Australian Rugby League as to whether the *Wigan pair of Jason Robinson* and Gary Connolly will be available for the series.

The 24-year dispute between the governing bodies running professional and amateur rugby league in Britain finally showed signs of ending yesterday. The wrangling that has affected the *sport since* amateur officials broke away *to set up the British Amateur* Rugby league Association (Barla) in 1973 was cast aside at a meeting at Brighouse, West Yorkshire.

The first step towards reunification was taken when Sir *Rodney Walker, chairman of* the Rugby Football League (RFL) and Mike Morrissey, his Barla counterpart, put their signatures to the setting-*up of a joint-policy board*.

Sir Rodney will chair the new board, which will comprise five members each from the RFL and Barla. A youth *commission* has been established to resolve the thorny subject of rugby league at schoolboy and student levels.

REMEMBER BLACK MONDAY? WE DO.

On Cable and Satellite

7.00pm World News

7.30pm *World Business Today*

Tonight, as we approach the 10th Anniversary of Black Monday, we ask: will history repeat itself?

8.00pm World News

8.30pm Q&A

9.00pm World News Europe

9.30pm Insight

10.00pm News Highlights/ World Business Today

CNN INTERNATIONAL

TELEVISION CHOICE

A nasty sting in this tale

999 Lifesavers
BBC1, 8.00pm

Having recently given us a series of *elaborately* reconstructed international rescues, the 999 team *returns with more modest incidents* from nearer home. Which is not to say that they did not frighten *the victims, though all happily* recovered and are here to tell their stories. It is particularly good to see the smiling face of five-year-old Matilda, after hearing how she was stung more than 100 times by a swarm of bees while on a school trip. As proof that it is not being simply voyeuristic, her story is linked with first-aid advice. We also hear how a mobile defibrillator was used to save the life of a fairground worker whose heart had stopped. And two surfers who had been caught by a riptide and spent five hours in the sea recall how a beam of light from a strobe armband led to their rescue.

Ground Force
BBC2, 8.30pm

Alan Titchmarsh and the garden *makeover team* are in Milton Keynes where Stuart, a prison officer, has spent two years trying to build a gazebo. In his absence, Titchmarsh and company decide to finish it, while also creating a pond, a formal garden and a croquet lawn. The appeal of this series is not only the endless banter it provokes but the unexpected setbacks. The other week it was a neighbour objecting to a new garden shed. Tonight the shocks are supplied by Stuart's partner, Julie. Rather late in the day, after a big hole has been dug in the lawn, she announces that Stuart dislikes formal gardens. There is worse. She did not realise the job was to take 48 hours and Stuart is on his way home a day early. It is a good thing Titchmarsh is on hand, for there can be nobody better to charm away a crisis.

Dangerfield
BBC1, 9.30pm

One of the pluses of the current series has been minimal appearances by Dr Paul Dangerfield's *tiresome children. The poor man has got enough to* do without having to drop everything and minister *to the wretched Al and Marty. Besides, the show* works better when its main plot is not constantly *interrupted. There is a meaty tale tonight, based on what could be* a double bluff. In the opening sequence we apparently see a young man *strangling his girlfriend* after a row. This gives us a start on the police, who are alerted when the young *woman goes missing*. But supposing that what we saw was not a murder at all? The puzzle is neatly *sustained*, with a surprise or two along the way. It is good to see Bill Wallis's Dr Nick featuring strongly and there is a memorably edgy performance by Julian Rhind-Tutt as the putative killer.

George Burns, Walter Matthau (BBC1)

Parkinson: The Interviews
BBC1, times vary

Walter Matthau and George Burns *had just made The Sunshine Boys* when they came on Michael Parkinson's show *in 1976 and, sure enough, the* film gets generous mention. On the other hand, *why not? It is an enjoyable movie and it* represented a remarkable comeback for Burns *whose previous screen appearance* had been in 1939. Moreover, playing one half of a music-hall *double act was his first acting* part and he was getting on for 80. Facing Parky, the two men from *the Lower East Side* are in fine form. Matthau shows his ability to do accents and demonstrates *how his mother walked when she* had too many cups of tea and needed to go somewhere fast. But *when it comes to telling jokes Matthau is hopeless* and it is left to Burns, the wily old vaudevillian, to *show him how*. Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

Kes
Radio 2, 9.15pm

I would wager that most people who recall this story do so from its film version, made by Ken Loach in 1969, and would probably remember it as *a rather sentimental story* of a boy and his kestrel. Indeed, that is exactly how I remember it. So *this, the start of an eight-part reading* adapted from the original Barry Hines novel, *A Kestrel for a Knave*, *is a welcome reminder that Kes is in fact a tale from* a gritty, sombre background in a northern mining *town. The boy, Billy, is abused at home. He is* about to leave school, qualified only to work down *the nearest pit, a prospect that horrifies him. But* when he takes a young kestrel from a nest his *outlook changes radically. The reader is Stephen* Tompkinson.

The Food Programme
Radio 4, 12.25pm

The oyster has never much appealed to me as a source of sustenance or indeed pleasure, but in my case the timing has been wrong: oysters began as cheap food for the masses long before I was around, became too exclusive (and therefore too expensive) when I was young and, now that they are cheaper again, have somehow lost their allure. Cheaper, but are they as cheap as they could be? Simon Parkes, who presents the programme this week, has been bouncing around in boats off the east coast of England and he is returning with a *tale of prices kept artificially high. That, of course,* is the thing some of us resent about oysters: as is the case with champagne and luxury cars, the image dictates the price. Peter Barnard

RADIO 1

6.30am Kevin Greening and Zoë Ball **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley. Includes **12.30pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Mark Radcliffe **4.00** Dave Pearce **5.45** Newsbeat **6.00** Pete Tong: Essential Selection **9.00** Judge Jules **11.00** Radio 1 Rap Show with Tim Westwood **2.00am** One in the Jungle on Tour: with MC Navigator at the Spider Club in Newcastle **4.00** Charlie Jordan

RADIO 2

6.00am Alex Lester **7.30** Sarah Kennedy **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg **7.30** Friday Night is Music Night. With the BBC Concert Orchestra as part of the Llandudno October Festival **9.15** Kes. See Choice **9.30** Listen to the Band **10.00** The Arts Programme **12.05am** Patrick Lunt

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breakfast Programme **9.00** The Magazine **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.00pm** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** Nationwide **7.00** News Extra **7.30** Sportstalk **8.30** Friday Sport. Includes Carlisle United v Preston North End **10.00** Paper Talk **11.00** News Extra **12.00** After Hours **2.00am** Up All Night with Richard Dallyn **5.00** Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00am Nick Abbot **7.00am** Lynn Parsons **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Jeremy Clark **4.00** (FM) Robin Banks (AM) Nicky Horne **7.00** (FM) Paul Coyte (AM) Caimin Jones **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Howard Pearce

TALK RADIO

6.30am Bill Overton and Carol McGiffen **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Moz Dee's Sportszone **10.00** Mike Allen **1.00am** Mike Dickin

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsday **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** The World Today **7.30** Pick of the World **8.00** News **8.15** Off the Shelf: The Portrait of a Lady **8.30** Music Review **9.00** News; News in German (648 only) **9.10** Pause for Thought **9.15** Performance **9.30** John Peel **10.00** News **10.05** World Business Report **10.15** History Today **10.30** BBC English: Speaking of English **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Plants of Power **12.00** Newsdesk **12.30pm** Focus on Faith **1.00** News; News in German (648 only) **1.05** World Business Report **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Ends of the World **1.45** Sports Roundup **2.00** Newshour **3.00** News **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Multitrack: Alternative **4.00** News **4.05** Football Extra **4.15** Paradox **4.30** Science in Action; News in German (648 only) **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Britain Today **6.00** News **6.15** The World Today **6.30** The Insider's Guide; News in German (648 only) **6.40** Spotlight **6.45** Sports Roundup **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** Focus on Faith **8.00** News **8.01** Outlook **8.25** Pause for Thought **8.30** Multitrack: Alternative **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.05** World Business Report **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** People and Politics **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** The World Today **11.45** Sports Roundup **12.00** News **12.05am** Outlook **12.30** Multitrack: Alternative **1.00** Newsdesk **1.30** From the Weeklies **1.45** Britain Today **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Paradox **2.45** The Insider's Guide **2.55** Spotlight **3.00** Newsday **3.30** People and Politics **4.00** News **4.05** World Business Report **4.15** Sports Roundup **4.30** The World Today; Weekend (Europe only) **4.45** Off the Shelf

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Alan Mann **9.00** Henry Kelly. Includes the Hall of Fame Hour and the Classic Masterpiece **1.00pm** Listener Request Hour **2.00** Concerto. Mozart (Violin Concerto No 1 in B flat) **3.00** Nick Bailey **7.00** Newsnight with John Brunning **7.30** Sonata. Mozart (Violin Sonata in A) **8.00** Evening Concert. Wagner, arr Edwin Lemare (Ride of the Valkyries); Monteverdi (Adoramus Te); Haydn (Keyboard Concerto in D); Brahms (Liebeslieder Waltzes); R. Strauss (Till Eulenspiegel); Schubert (Symphony No 4 in C minor, Tragic) **10.00** Michael Mappin **2.00am** Concerto (r) **4.00** Sally Peterson

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Schubert (Gesang der Geister über den Wassern, D714); Bach (Concerto in C, BWV1064); Elgar (Ave Verum Corpus); Berlioz (Overture: Les Francs-juges); Bernstein (Overture: Candide)

9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday. Includes Copland (Fanfare for the Common Man); Ibert (Escales); Handel (Concerto Grosso in A minor, Op 6 No 4); Mozart (Vesperae Solennes de Confessore, K339)

10.00 Musical Encounters. Includes Bizet (Chanson Boheme, Carmen); Waxman (Carmen Fantasy); Taffanel (Fantasy on Mignon); Liszt (Reminiscences de Lucia); Berg (Lulu Symphony); Purcell (The Virtuous Wife); Furstenau (Illusions); Schnittke (Gratulations Rondo)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Glinka

1.00pm News; the Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. Live from St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol. Sophie Yates, harpsichord. Includes Merulo (Susanne un Jour); Farnaby (Ay Me, Poor Heart); Lassus, transcr Philips (Le Rossignol); Purcell (Chaconne, Timon of Athens); Ground (With Him He Brings the Partner); Rameau (L'Entretien des Muses; Royer, Zaïde; Allemande); Forqueray (Suite No 3 in D, excerpts); Vivaldi, transcr Bach (Concerto in G minor, BWV975)

2.00 The BBC Archive. Fiona Talkington examines the life and work of the musicologist Thurston Dart (r)

4.00 Music Restored (r)

4.45 Music Machine. Verity Sharp explores Stravinsky's ballet *The Rite of Spring*

5.00 In Tune, with Sean Rafferty and guests from the Wexford Opera Festival

7.30 Performance on 3. A concert, recorded last week in the City Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Northern Sinfonia under Jean-Bernard Pommier, piano. With Sybille Ehlert, soprano, Bradley Creswick, violin. Takemitsu (Rain Coming); Stravinsky (Two Bal'mont Songs; Three Japanese Lyrics); Dutilleux (Mystere de l'instant); Takemitsu (Nostalgia); Ravel (Piano Concerto in G)

9.10 Postscript: Poets' Fan Mail. The American poet Mark Doty reads his *Letter to Walt Whitman* (5/5)

9.25 Oxbridge Organs. The first in a four-part series of recitals from the smaller chapels of Oxford and Cambridge colleges. David Sanger plays an all-French programme on the new two-manual organ in Exeter College Chapel

10.00 Hear and Now. Sarah Walker presents a concert given earlier this evening at St Paul's Church, Knightsbridge. BBC Singers, Endymion Ensemble, Christopher Bowers-Broadbent, organ, under Simon Joly. Includes Simon Bainbridge (Eicha, first performance); Gabriel Jackson (A Vision of Airplanes, first performance); James MacMillan (Wedding Introit); Part (Puzzle, first performance); Kevin Volans (Walking Song); David Knotts (New work); Kaija Saariaho (Nuits, Adieux)

11.30 Composers of the Week: Dufay, Binchois and Their Contemporaries (r)

12.30am Documenting the Blues. The first of a new series exploring early black music (1/8) (r)

1.00 Through the Night with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

5.55am (LW) **Shipping Forecast 6.00** News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today **8.45** Tips from Women Gardeners (5/5) **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs (r)

9.45 Gerry's Bar, with Gerry Anderson (3/4)

10.00 (FM) **News; Old Stubborn Guts** (4/5)

10.00 (LW) **An Act of Worship**

10.15 (LW) **On This Day**, with Geoffrey Wheeler

10.30 Woman's Hour. Includes the short story *The Great Leonardo*, from the collection *Gravity*, written by the *Times* literary editor Erica Wagner

11.30 The Natural History Programme. Presented by Joanna Pinnock

12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer news and current affairs with Mark Whittaker

12.25pm The Food Programme. See Choice (r) **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Classic Serial: The Lifted Veil The final part of Jonathan Holloway's serial, adapted from the novella by George Eliot (r)

3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Tim Marlow looks at the history of outdoor advertising

4.45 Short Story: The Falkirk Malteser, by Douglas Young. Read by Paul Birchard (r)

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Going Places. David Stafford presents more ideas for the weekend ahead

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 Pick of the Week. Chris Serle presents his selection of extracts from BBC radio and television over the past seven days

8.05 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby chairs the topical debate in Woolton, Liverpool. Panellists includes Stephen Byers, Minister of State at the Department of Education and Employment and the Liberal Democrat parliamentary spokesperson, Lembit Opik

8.50 Judging the Judges. Professor Simon Lee talks to Lord Browne-Wilkinson (3/3)

9.15 Letter from America, by Alistair Cooke

9.30 Kaleidoscope Feature: Mona Lisa. Tim Marlow traces the history of da Vinci's masterpiece (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Story of Mr Sommer, by Patrick Suskind, translated by Michael Hoffman and read by Alistair McGowan (3/3) (r)

11.00 Week Ending. The satirical news show. With Jon Glover, Sally Grace, Dave Lamb and Sarah Parkinson

11.25 Fourth Column. A sideways look at the week

11.45 Beyond the Millennium. Olara Otunnu, President of the New York Peace Academy, shares predictions for the future (8/8) (r)

12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: The Drowned World, by J.G. Ballard. Read by Nicholas Farrell (8/10) (r)

12.48 (LW) **Shipping Forecast**

1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.**

هكذا من الأصل

Uninvited? Yes, but I'm sad to see them go

A week ago I overheard what I realise now was an important telephone call. "Sorry, darling," drawled this very pukka sort of chap, "going to be a late one, I'm afraid — can you set the video for nine o'clock?" Ah, I thought, a man anxious not to miss *A Dance to the Music of Time*. His wife clearly thought the same but both she and I were wrong. "No, not that," hissed the man, his voice falling to an embarrassed whisper, "the one we've been watching on ITV — you know, *The Whatever*."

He meant **The Uninvited** (ITV) and he had nothing to be embarrassed about. From beginning to end, the story of the Norfolk-based aliens with the ping-pong ball eyes has been a treat. Last night, sadly, we did reach the end. It was simply a case of which Peter Bowker, the writer, would go for. Would it be the one from *Invasion of the Bodysnatchers*, when the aliens win the day, or would it be the more familiar one from just about everything else? The suspense went right down to the razor wire when our hero found himself trapped in a nuclear bunker, surrounded by a couple of dozen top baddies, armed only with an axe and an increasingly soppy girlfriend. The situation was grim and the odds were definitely against them — unless . . .

But long before then there had been a definite last episode feeling about proceedings. Suddenly the plot started moving along at a rate that would make *A Dance to the Music of Time* look sluggish. It wasn't saline that killed aliens, discovered Sarah (Caroline Lee Johnston), the clever pathologist, it was pure oxygen.

"They must prefer an atmosphere high in carbon," gabbled Melissa (Lia Williams), moving into explanation overdrive. They had been attracted here by 20th-century pollution, were adding to it by blowing up power stations around the world and planned to finish us off by detonating nuclear bombs in Antarctica and blowing the ozone layer to alien kingdom come. Suddenly, it all made sense. Didn't it?

In truth, it didn't matter. Somehow you knew that this clever pathologist would want to test her theory by asking the head alien (Leslie Grantham) to put on an oxygen mask, neatly ensuring that at least one goodie would not be making it to the final credits. Make that two, I thought, as Joanna (Sylvestra Le Touzel) gamely skipped off to take the whole story "right to the top". What had she been doing for the first three episodes — didn't she know "the top" was riddled with wall-eyed carbon gulpers?

Throughout, my one slight concern had been whether what I was enjoying was what its makers had intended. Was it deadly serious or

REVIEW

Matthew Bond

tongue in cheek? Reassurance came last night, as Grantham used his superior alien mental powers to track Steve (Douglas Hodge) with an accuracy quite beyond *Homo sapiens*. "I wonder if he does racing tips?" mused a Norfolk policeman. Congratulations to all — mainly for keeping a straight face.

Keeping a straight body is the problem facing Ian Waterman. The slightest lapse in concentration, as we learnt in a first-class **Horizon** (BBC2), and he's likely to end up a crumpled heap on the ground. That's because of an affliction that should belong to science fiction, but sadly doesn't. All the nerves that tell his brain where his body is have been destroyed, probably by his own immune system after it set about attacking a virus and got horribly carried away. The amazing thing is that Waterman, barring a slight peculiarity of gait, walks, talks and moves just like the rest of us.

For a nervous 15 minutes or so, as we dwelt on the man and his condition, I thought the programme wasn't going to give us the how and the why. But eventually the science arrived to banish any slight freak show leanings, and we were off.

It would be wrong to call what arrived "medicine", as that would imply there was a cure. There isn't. Waterman still can't feel anything below his neck and probably never will, but the way he has overcome his disability offers hope for the handful of patients around the world with the same condition and offers his specialists a remarkable research opportunity. Thankfully, it's an interest he shares.

The research largely confirmed what Waterman already knew: that he had recovered control of his limbs by a mix of visualisation and vision. First he imagined the movement he wanted to make and then he used his eyes to make sure his limbs were actually doing it. It took a little while to realise that without touch, without proprioception (a term perhaps unwisely introduced within the first minute) that this process had to be repeated for every step, every gesture, every single physical task he undertakes. Waterman compared the effort to running a marathon every day: an underestimate.

Elsewhere, **A Dance to the Music of Time** (Channel 4) danced on, perhaps not quite as annoyingly as last week but certainly not far off. Particularly frustrating for those who had worked hard on the "who's who" was that half of them barely turned up in this second instalment. Stringham arrived merely to confirm that he was drinking too much and Templar to show that his choice of cars was still better than his choice of women. In their place were an awful lot of Tolland sisters, who married or had affairs with all the men who were left.

Mind you, they all did better than Uncle Giles (Edward Fox) who pitched up just in time to die. That made the score for the night two sudden deaths, umpteen weddings and just the one, apparently now statutory, full-frontal nude. Or don't mad housemaids count?

BBC1

0am Business Breakfast (13949)
0 BBC Breakfast News (T) (82510659)
5 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (3688543)
0 Style Challenge (1025433)
5 Kilroy (T) (3004320)
5 Change That (8110340)
0 News (T) and weather (7509036)
5 The Really Useful Show (T) (7532562)
5 Room for Improvement A self-built kitchen (r) (3540833)
5 News (T) and weather (8982185)
5pm Call My Bluff (7655562)
5 Going for a Song (5337123)
) One O'Clock News (T) and weather (11494)
) Regional News (T) (73479611)
) The Weather Show (85838974)
5 Neighbours (T) (71195123)
) Quincy (r) (8124369)
) Through the Keyhole (r) (1017)
Playdays (r) (8848949) **3.50** Dear Mr Barker (8811611) **4.05** The All New Popeye Show (T) (1718307) **4.15** Casper (T) (6073340) **4.35** Record Breakers (T) (8643814) *5.00 Newsround* (T) (2917253) **5.10** Blue Peter (T) (9323678)
Neighbours (r) (T) (357549)
Six O'Clock News (T) and weather (758)
Regional News (T) (878)
Weekend Watchdog with Anne Robinson (T) (3098)
Top of the Pops (T) (562)
999 Lifesavers New series of stories of bravery and survival presented by Michael Buerk and Donna Bernard including a small child who was attacked by a swarm of bees while on a school trip and two surfers swept away in a riptide (T) (2746)
Keeping Up Appearances Hyacinth is delighted when a wealthy neighbour asks her for a lift (r) (T) (1253)
Nine O'Clock News (T) regional news and weather (3833)
Dangerfield: Adam A young man strangles a girl following an argument. With a guest appearance by Jan Harvey (T) (239833)
Parkinson: The Interviews Michael Parkinson recalls a joint interview with veteran American funnymen Walter Matthau and George Burns (T) (644901) **WALES: 10.20** Satellite City (448456) **10.50** Parkinson: The Interviews (624307) **11.35** FILM: In the Heat of the Night (140746) **1.20am-3.10** FILM: Kotch (1971) (594437)
In the Heat of the Night (1967) starring Rod Steiger, Sidney Poitier and Quentin Dean. A bigoted sheriff of a small Southern township reluctantly accepts the help of a black detective in a murder investigation. Directed by Norman Jewison (T) (188746)
m Kotch (1971) Sentimental comedy, with Walter Matthau, Deborah Winters and Felicia Farr. An elderly widower finds comfort in his friendship with a pregnant youngster. Directed by Jack Lemmon (565499)
Weather (3645296)

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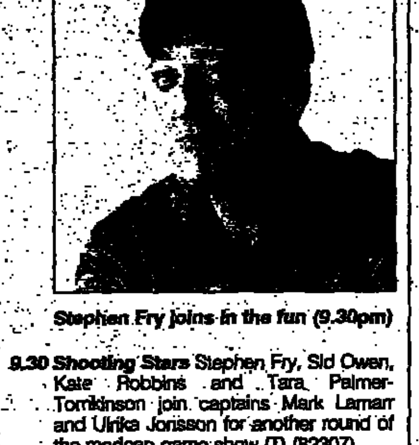
BBC2

6.00am Social Sciences: Forecasting the Economy (27830) **6.30** Cultures of the Walkman (89307)
7.00 See Hear Breakfast News (T and signing) (9412920)
7.15 Teletubbies (r) (6725340) **7.40** Smurfs' Adventures (r) (4109307) **8.05** Smart (r) (T) (7861307) **8.30** William's Wish Wellingtons (2409659) **8.35** Wishing (r) (7234727) *8.45 Harry and the* Hendersons (T) (9421727)
9.10 Music Makers (7980388) **9.30** Watch (8433833) **9.45** Come Outside (8438388) **10.00** Teletubbies (70659) **10.30** Look and Read (7335272) **10.50** The Art (7355036) **11.10** Landmarks (T) (5110036) **11.30** English File (2340) **12.00** Scene. Part one (T) (35901)
12.30pm Working Lunch (82543)
1.00 The Little Polar Bear (r) (55820098) **1.05** Pingu (r) (55829369) **1.10** The Countryside Hour: The Isle of Man and the Western Isles (7441611)
2.10 Indoor Bowls: Bupa Open The first of today's best-of-five-sets quarter-final matches (94340901)
6.00 The Simpsons Homer almost bankrupts himself trying to prove he really does love Lisa (T) (370920)
6.25 Star Trek (r) (T) (850543)
7.15 Electric Circus New series. Showbiz news, including an interview with the Spice Girls and Zoe Ball's first day at Radio 1 (759833)
7.30 Top Gear Motorsport The climax of the Eurocar championship; a review of the British Formula 3 season; promising newcomers to Superbikes (104)
8.00 The Big Catch Liam Dale attempts to land a conger eel during a trip to Cornwall (T) (7348)
8.30 Ground Force A Milton Keynes resident has his gazebo project transformed (T) (2123)
9.00 Red Dwarf (r) (T) (1475)



Stephen Fry joins in the fun (9.30pm)

9.30 Shooting Stars Stephen Fry, Sid Owen, Kate Robbins and Tara Palmer-Tomkinson join captains Mark Lamarr and Ulrika Jonsson for another round of the madcap game show (T) (82307)
10.00 Pick 'n' Mix Animal moments from the comedy archives (36630)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (802185)
11.15 VR 5 With Lori Singer (T) (687036)
12.00-2.40am Farewell, My Concubine FILM (1993) Drama set in 1920s China, focusing on the friendship between two successful opera stars over a period of 50 years, and the complex romantic triangle that develops when they both fall for a beautiful Peking prostitute. Chen Kaige's Cannes-winner, which was also nominated for several Oscars, starring Leslie Cheung, Zhang Fengyi and Gong Li. In Mandarin with English subtitles (58477673)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (4833582)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (T) (3884727)
9.55 Regional News (2933122)
10.00 The Time, the Place (87165)

Richard and Judy present (10.30am)

10.30 This Morning with Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan (T) (77466369)
12.20pm Regional News (8996388)
12.30 News (T) and weather (5323920)
12.55 WALES: Grass Roots Magazine about the Welsh countryside (r) (T) (5308611)
12.55 Dogs with Dunbar Sign language for deaf dogs (5308611) **1.25** Home and Away (T) (76775098) **1.50** Murder, She Wrote (r) (9810272)
2.50 WALES: The Pulse (T) (9168678)
2.50 Garden Calendar (T) (9168678)
3.20 News (T) (4729659)
3.25 Regional News (T) (4711630)
3.30 Jays' World (8835291) **3.40** Titch (9328562) **3.50** Oscar and Friends (9324746) *4.00 Roger and the* Rottentrolls (T) (8210611) **4.15** The Best of Hey Arnold! (6099388) **4.40** Fun House (T) (1454720)
5.10 A Country Practice (3707291)
5.40 News (T) and weather (530949)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (374746)
6.25 HTV Weather (250727)
6.30 HTV News (T) (746)
7.00 Bruce's Price is Right (T) (1494)
7.30 Coronation Street (T) (630)
8.00 The Bill Ackland and Jarvis search for the truth when a lawyer's former boyfriend admits stabbing her fiancé (T) (7814)
8.30 Strange But True? A special episode introduced by Michael Aspel investigating the so-called curse of Tutankhamun's tomb (T) (6949)
9.00 Catherine Cookson's the Rag Nymph In the final part of this drama, Millie has transformed the rag and bone yard into a thriving bakery, but her personal life is not such a success (T) (5543)
10.00 News at Ten (T) and weather (30456)
10.29 Regional Weather (409727)
10.30 Missing (1982) Jack Lemmon and Sissy FILM Spacek star in this powerful political drama in which a father travels to Chile to find his son, who disappeared in the 1973 military coup. Directed by Constanin Costa-Gavras (62121833)
12.55 The Paul Ross Show (847168)
2.30 18 Again (1988) with George Burns, FILM Charlie Schalatter and Tony Roberts. Comic tale about an octogenarian whose wish to be 18 again is granted. Directed by Paul Flaherty (237627)
4.10 Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (r) (93471673)
4.35 Coach (r) (56030031)
5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (86234)
5.30 News (46031)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (5308611)
2.50-3.20 Our House (9168678)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (3707291)
6.25-7.00 Central News (754920)
10.40 Central Weekend Live (95384814)
12.15am Campus Cops (5267383)
2.30 The LADS (83708)
3.00 Box Office America (87346673)
3.25 Baywatch (3806741)
4.10 Central Jobfinder '97 (6171215)
5.20 Asian Eye (7928586)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (8988369)
12.55 Home and Away (5308611)
1.25 Spill the Beans (46496123)
1.55 Westcountry Update (71177727)
2.25-3.20 Blue Heelers (8121272)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (3707291)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (74388)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (5308611)
1.50 Serve You Right (71178456)
2.20-3.20 Highway to Heaven (7875036)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (3707291)
6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (74388)
10.40 Film: Basic Instinct (19943727)
5.00am Freescreen (86234)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (5308611)
1.50 A Splash of Colour (71178456)
2.20-3.20 Highway to Heaven (7875036)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (3707291)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (754920)
11.00 Film: The Late Picture Show: Psycho IV: the Beginning (633611)

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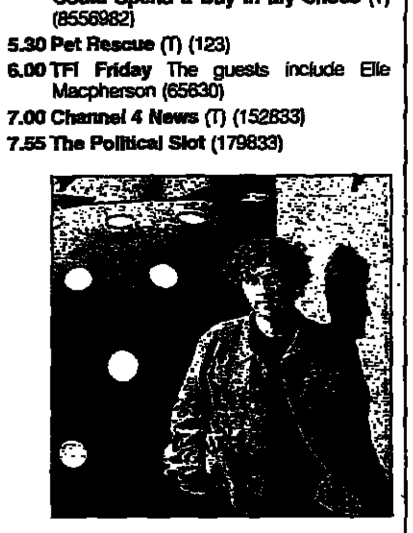
Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (67807)
9.00 Ysgolion (605384)
11.30 Scrimpers (7036)
12.00pm Sesame Street (37369)
12.30 Ricki Lake (57611)
1.00 Slot Meithrin (32243524)
1.15 Slot Syniadau Sali (32271307)
1.30 It's a Cat's World (56982)
2.00 Racing from Newmarket (2456)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (659)
4.30 Out of Africa (543)
5.00 5 Pump (4259901)
5.15 Mynd Drot Drot (2929098)
5.30 Countdown (123)
6.10 Heno (862388)
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (495123)
7.25 Y Sioe Gelf (408659)
8.00 Yma Mae 'Nghan (5456)
8.30 Newyddion (7291)
9.00 Rhwng Dau a Dyn (3185)
10.00 Brookside (918098)
10.35 Friends (510369)
11.05 Jo Brand: Like It or Lump It (457727)
11.35 King of the Hill (420833)
12.05am TFI Friday (3201321)
1.10 Film: The Game of Death (923925)
2.45 Strange Boarders (197050)

CHANNEL 4

5.55am Sesame Street (54889)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (67807)
9.00 Schools: Off Limits (3605210) **9.25** Schools at Work (3598603) Eureka! (8531429) *9.45* Stop, Look, Listen (6003806) **10.02** Lost Animals (3246142) **10.10** TVM (2301177) **10.25** Caraldean (2399332) **10.40** Top (745744) **11.00** Robert Burns (6270535) **11.15** Stage One (63713500)
11.30 Scrimpers How to avoid losing your *credit cards (2/6) (r) (7036)*
12.00 Sesame Street (37369)
12.30pm Light Lunch (83765)
1.30 Dan Pearson: Routes Around the World (1/6) (r) (T) (56982)
2.00 Racing from Newmarket The **2.05**, **2.35**, **3.10** and **3.40** races (2456)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (659)
4.30 Countdown (T) (8637253)
4.55 Ricki Lake: You'd Change If You Could Spend a Day in My Shoes (T) (8556982)
5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (123)
6.00 TFI Friday The guests include Elle Macpherson (65630)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (152833)
7.55 The Political Slot (179833)



Dan Pearson visits Tokyo (8.00pm)

8.00 Dan Pearson: Routes Around the World In Tokyo, Dan finds a garden designed for night-time viewing and discovers the green corridors that grow along the narrow urban alleyways (2/6) (T) (5456)
8.30 Brookside Has Christian finally driven Rachel too far? (T) (7291)
9.00 Friends: The One The Morning After After falling out with Rachel, Ross finds consolation into Chloe's arms; his guilt his compounded by the arrival of Rachel (T) (750475)
9.35 Cybill: The Wedding Ira, Cybill and Zoe attend (T) (540253)
10.00 Frasier: Roz's Krantz and Gouldenstein are Dead Roz fears she may be the angel of death (T) (38098)
10.30 Jo Brand: Like It or Lump It (T) (981104)
11.05 King of the Hill Bobby discovers a talent for target shooting (T) (457727)
11.35 TFI Friday (r) (227388)
12.40am The Game of Death (1979) Bruce FILM Lee's final film, completed after his death. Directed by Robert Clouse (697645)
2.15 Strange Boarders (b/w, 1938) with FILM Ronald Adam and Googie Withers. A secret service agent investigates the death of a woman found with classified aeroplane blueprints. Directed by Herbert Mason (T) (105079)
3.45 Page 73 (4974128)
4.30 Takeover TV (15234)
5.00 Captain Butler (1/6) (r) (T) (4706079)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE

Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. **Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No** *63 are picture:* **10.92075 GHz**; *sound:* **7.02 and 7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News Early (2758727)
7.30 Milkshake (7771524) **7.35** USA High (r) (4127386) **8.00** Havakazoo (r) (8152123)
8.30 WideWorld A new series exploring the world of art (1/15) (8151494)
9.00 One in Three: Coping with Cancer (r) *(5324475) 10.00 Exclusive (r) (6070098)* **10.30** The Car Show (r) (8131630)
11.00 Leeza Chat show (2165253) **11.50** Double Espresso (r) (44056746) **12.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (8122982) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (7960663)
1.00 5 News Update (99922307) **1.05** Sunset Beach *(T) (1189659)* **2.00** *5's Company (4466765)*
3.30 How to Murder a Millionaire (1990) FILM starring Joan Rivers as a Beverly Hills housewife convinced her husband is trying to kill her. A comedy directed by Paul Schneider (3599524)
5.20 5's Company: Late Extra (55745833) **5.30** Whittle (T) (8135746) **6.00** 100 Per Cent (8132659) **6.30** Family Affairs (T) (8116611) **7.00** Name That Tune (6973901)

Boy George on fashion (7.30pm)

7.30 Exclusive presented by Boy George. The highs and lows in celebrity fashion (8145129)
8.00 Jenny Eclair Squats (6999949)
8.30 5 News (T) (6978456)
9.00 Stalking Laura (1993) with Brooke FILM Shields and Richard Thomas. A thriller about a young man whose crush on a workmate turns to an obsession. Directed by Michael Switzer (69082104)
10.50 La Femme Nikita Female special agent adventures (3410253)
11.45 Perfume of the Cyclone (1990) starring FILM Kris Kristofferson as a Chicago cop on a tropical island trying to save his daughter from the clutches of a white-slave trader. Directed by David Irving (6140098)
1.25am Night of Courage (1986) starring FILM Barnard Hughes. A drama about a young Puerto Rican who is persecuted by a gang when he starts dating a white girl. Elliot Silverstein directs (3985505)
3.15 Dreams of Gold: The Mel Fisher Story FILM (1986) starring Cliff Robertson and Loretta Swit. The story of a man searching for the wreck of a 17th-century Spanish galleon. James Goldstone directs (5319876)
4.45 Night Stand Spoof chat show (2292012)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (5372012)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

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shed on Saturday

Morning Glory (423727) **9.00** Regis the Lee (76920) **10.00** Another 2388) **11.00** Days of Our Lives **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (98982) Geraldo (48730) **2.00** Sally Jessy (35730) **3.00** Jenny Jones (14456) rah Winfrey (26291) **5.00** Star Trek: t Generation (4253) **6.00** Making of Team (6833) **6.30** Married...with (7185) **7.00** The Simpsons (1272) *A*S*H (3369) **8.00** Highlander **9.00** Walker, Texas Ranger (66307) dra Time (83562) **10.30** Stand and 69962) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next on (43017) **12.00** Late Show **1.00am** Long Play (1327925)

IEWS

s news coverage, with bulletins on 24 hours a day, seven days a week

IOVIES

Esther and the King (1960) 30) **7.55** Smokey and the Bandit (12157678) **9.30** Dust (1971) **11.00** The Stalking Moon (1969) **1.00pm** Esther and the King (19562) **3.00** Color Me Perfect (28543) **5.00** Smokey and the (1977) (98494) **7.00** Revenge of Panther (1978) (32901) **9.00** The eath (1995) (51846543) **10.40** The Show (159272) **11.10** Cyberella: len Passions (1996) (283659) n Love Potion (1989) (633499) ptember (1988) (6547726) **3.40** Obsession (1993) (54505296)

IOVIE CHANNEL

Burning Secret (1988) (68388) botic The Movie (1998) (98524) he Christmas Coal Mine Miracle (11833) **12.00** The Gay Divorcee (16475) **2.00pm** Ace Ventura: lature Calls (1995) (58388) **4.00** ble and the Penguin (1995) 24) **5.50** Stuart Saves His Family (84895543) **8.00** Ace Ventura: lature Calls (1995) (40389) **10.00** arly (1995) (675682) **11.45** Hide- 1995) (520833) **1.35am** Shrunken (1994) (3250234) **3.05** The Best

(1980) (474215) **4.50** The Old Curiosity Shop (1984) (1679676)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Agatha Christie's Murder in Three Acts (1986) (4416678) **6.00** The Long Ships (1964) (1480901) **8.00** The Couch Trip (1988) (1492746) **10.00** For a Few Dollars More (1966) (51731104) **12.15am** The Pumpkin Eater (1964) (1784857) **2.05** Victory at Entebbe (1976) (4368418) **4.00** Close

TNT

8.00pm WCW Nitro (73506165) **9.00** Slither (1972) (73501272) **11.00** Hit Man (1972) (77495340) **12.45am** Cannery Row (1982) (23288165) **3.00** Slither (1972) (43603741) **5.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (85253) **7.30** Racing News (84398) **8.00** World Club Championship Final — Live (55388) **10.00** Golf: Dunhill Cup — Live (3252611) **4.30pm** The Rugby Club (87562) **6.00** Sports Centre (24920) **7.00** Golf: Dunhill Cup (261814) **10.00** Sports Centre (86498) **11.00** Hold the Back Page (74801) **12.00** Sports Centre (68876) **1.00am** Wrestling (98234) **3.00** High 5 (86505) **3.30** Powerboat: Formula One (38708) **4.00** Hold the Back Page (30499) **5.00** Golf: Top Club Trophy (72673)

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics (2409123) **7.30** Sports Centre (2488830) **8.00** Racing News (9751814) **8.30** Tight Lines (9274659) **9.30** Rugby Club (5629678) **11.00** Formula Three (2404678) **12.00** Formula One Powerboat (9754901) **12.30pm** Football League Review (2998659) **1.00** Trans World Sport (2924814) **2.00** Watersports World (1548456) **3.00** Rebel Sports (2781017) **4.00** Trans World Sport (2770524) **5.00** Inside the Senior PGA Tour (8382497) **5.30** Extreme Sport (7285307) **6.00** Formula One Powerboat (7275920) **6.30** Inside the Senior PGA Tour (7268272) **7.00** Live Football (5640949) **10.00** Live US Golf: Disney Classic (7204369) **12.30am** Inside the Senior PGA Tour (7052321) **1.00** Extreme Sport (8418298) **1.30** Trans World Sport (8001215) **2.30** Sports Centre (7811506) **3.30** US Golf: Disney Classic (8572944)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00pm Rebel Sports (9897164[illegible]) **1.00** Tight Lines (16971663) **2.00** Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (64856185) **3.30** Equestrianism (73033524) **5.00** V-Max (65916253) **6.30** Golf: Top Club Trophy (35070920) **6.30** High Five (97128456) **7.00** World Club Championship (82847727) **9.00** Extreme Sport (29629104) **9.30** Formula One Powerboat (97521302) **10.00** Wrestling (29610456) **12.00** Close

EUROSPORT

7.30am Football (22104) **9.00** Motorcycling (53920) **11.00** Speedworld (88104) **12.00** Live Women's Tennis (98678) **1.30pm** Modern Pentathlon (82104) **2.30** Motorsports (31104) **3.30** Football (10369) **5.30** Live Women's Tennis (4833) **6.00** Live Tennis (72253) **97.30** Live Tennis (55272) **.00** Boxing (99659) **10.00** Sumo (92746) **11.00** Fun Sports (67562) **11.30** Fitness (64369) **12.30am** Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Rentaghost (8827833) **7.35** Neighbours (8891272) **8.00** Crossroads (9654820) **8.25** EastEnders (9636659) **9.00** The Bill (1108765) **9.30** Howards' Way (4998369) **10.00** In Loving Memory (9693543) **10.30** The Sullivans (1104949) **11.00** Boon (8827456) **12.00** Crossroads (57106291) **12.25pm** Neighbours (57115678) **12.55** EastEnders (1704291) **1.30** Hi-De-Hi (8179098) **2.10** Keeping Up Appearances (2213475) **2.50** Are You Being Served? (4131253) **3.30** The Bill (9298524) **4.00** Casualty (82525727) **5.05** EastEnders (9592017) **5.40** Bob's Full House (7812494) **6.25** That's Showbusiness (7741949) **7.00** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (7996746) *7.45* Brush Strokes (5861659) **8.20** Keeping Up Appearances (1536104) **9.00** The Bill (1310253) **9.30** Auf Wiedersehen, Pet (89922562) *10.35* Men Behaving Badly (5618253) **11.10** The Best of Old Grey Whistle Test (9003746) **11.45** Rock Goes to College (3536874) *12.25am* In Profile (8101780) **1.05** Live at Jongleurs (4873876) **1.10** Miami Vice (5352284) **2.05** Shopping (38203418)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am El Special (4833456) **7.00** Coronation St (5108982) **7.30** Families (5127017) *8.00* Surprise Surprise (6855253) **9.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (7194123) **10.00** Mission Impossible (5116901) **11.00** Hawaii Five-O (5136785) **12.00** Coronation St (4272814) **12.30pm** Families (2320901) **1.00** Blind Date (2325459) **2.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (3730104) *3.00 Grumbleweeds* (5591949) **3.30** A Fine Romance (5086494)

Peter Gallagher and Alison Elliott (Sky Movies, 9.00pm)

4.00 Mission: Impossible (3582307) **5.00** Hawaii Five-O (5575901) **6.00** Families (5082678) **6.30** Coronation St (5088630) *7.00* Blind Date (1791920) **8.00** Mission Impossible (1777340) **9.00** Coronation St (3581291) **9.30** Comedians (2340765) *10.00* Hawaii Five-O (1790291) **11.00** Close

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Dumbo (52388) **6.30** Lamb Chop (66017) **7.00** Chip 'n' Dale (87475) **7.30** Quack Pack (76982) **8.00** Dinosaurs (19524) **8.30** Bonkers (41123) **9.00** Gummi Bears (32475) **9.30** Groundling Marsh (2539497) **9.55** Mouse and Mole (4244272) **10.00** Sesame Street (96974) **11.00** Winnie the Pooh (8559098) **11.15** Rosie and Jim (3551712) **11.40** Sing Me a Story (3194746) **12.00** Tots TV (12611) **12.30pm** Big Garage (70050794) **12.45** Winnie the Pooh (75000299) **1.00** Sesame Street (77086) **2.00** Madison's Adventures (4920) **2.30** Care Bears (6830) **3.00** Tale Spin (8217) **3.30** Goof Troop (8475) **4.00** Timon and Pumbaa (7982) **4.30** Aladdin (6494) **5.00** Gargoyles (5272) **5.30** Dinosaurs (7746) **6.00** Nightmare Ned (4659) **6.30** Smart Guy (8611) **7.00** Wayne Manifesto (5036) **7.30** FILM: Robin Hood (69098) **9.00** Second Noah (37833) **10.00** Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Delly and His Friends (8580920) **6.30** Billy the Cat (2993678) **7.00** Pinocchio (8936949) **7.30** Power Rangers Zeo (6915456) **8.00** Beetleborgs (1901104) **8.30** Masked Rider (1900475) **9.00** The Magic Box (1981727) **9.30** Dudley the Dragon (2394271) **10.00** Inspector Gadget (2977630) **10.30** Samurai Pizza Cats (1980611) **11.00** Sweet Valley High (6924104) **12.00** Ace Ventura (1904291) **12.30pm** Casper (4299807) *1.00 The Tick* (6928920) **1.30** Iron Man (5649348) **2.00** Fantastic Four (4693543) **2.30** Power Rangers Zeo (7279291) *3.00* Beetleborgs (4512678) **3.30** Masked Rider (7281036) **4.00** Ace Ventura (7260543) **4.30** Casper (7266727) *5.00* The Tick (4617123) **5.30** X Man (7280307) **6.00** Spiderman (7270920) **6.30** Sweet Valley High (7251272)

TCC

6.00am Happily Ever After (58562) **6.30** Bobby's World (82291) **7.00** Sprout (36479) **7.30** Dennis the Menace (89456) **8.00** Batman (22098) **8.30** Bots Master (21388) **9.00** Art Attack (45949) **9.30** Earthworm Jim (41611) **10.00** Gravedale High (53543) **10.30** Flash Gordon (34833) **11.00** Creepy Crawlers (86611) **11.30** Gigantor (87340) **12.00** Gravedale High (25185) **12.30pm** Bots Master (52727) **1.00** Batman (92820) **1.30** Eek the Cat (51098) **2.00** Creepy Crawlers (7494) **2.30** Flash Gordon (9104) **3.00** Sonic (6901) **3.30** Earthworm Jim (1949) *4.00 Dennis the Menace* (7776) **4.30** Art Attack (9340) **5.00** Close

CARTOON NETWORK

All your favourite cartoons broadcast from 5.00am to 8.00pm, seven days a week.

NICKELODEON

6.00am Killer Tomatoes (10388) **6.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters (65765) **7.00** Hey Arnold! (96123) **7.30** Rugrats (75630) **8.00** Doug (84814) **8.30** Country Mouse and City Mouse (83185) **9.00** CBBC (49415) **9.30** CBBC (10727) **10.00** Wimzie's House (56017) **10.30** Babar (49479) **11.00** Magic School Bus (55727) **11.30** Bananas in Pyjamas (56456) **12.00** Paddington Bear etc (87901) **12.30pm** Portland Bill etc (14543) **1.00** Dr Seuss (95494) **1.30** Little Bear Stories (13814) **2.00** Animal Show (6982) **2.30** CBBC (8291) **3.00** CBBC (5017) **3.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters/Doug (8036) **4.00** Hey Arnold! (7543) **4.30** Rugrats (3727) **5.00** Sister Sister (1302) **5.30** Kenan and Kel (7307) **6.00** Sabrina (7920) **6.30** Kablam! (8272) **7.00** Close

TROUBLE

12.00pm Swan's Crossing (1180369) *12.30 Ready or Not (4985253)* **1.00** Madison (6618340) **1.30** Sweet Valley High (4984524) **2.00** Saved by the Bell (9263678) **2.30** Swan's Crossing (9211475) *3.00* No Naked Flame (9242185) **3.30** Ready or Not (9218920) **4.00** Saved by the Bell (9202727) **4.30** USA High (9291611) *5.00* Hangtime (9247630) **5.30** Sweet Valley High (9215291) **6.00** Blast (9212104) **6.30** Madison (9203456) **7.00** Hangtime (9267494) **7.30** USA High (9292340) **8.00** Close

BRAVO

8.00pm The A-Team (9556098) **9.00** Crime Story (9569562) *10.00 Tour of Duty* (8578949) **11.00** FILM: Friday Foster (1975) (8097746) **1.00am** Crime Story (8632138) *2.00 Tour of Duty* (3145437) **3.00** FILM: Friday Foster (1975) (9845692) **5.00** The A-Team (5048298)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Grace Under Fire (7098) **7.30** Roseanne (4456) **8.00** Ellen (6746) **8.30** Cybill (5253) **9.00** Cheers (68291) **9.30** Taxi (34307) **10.00** Monty Python (98820) **11.00** Paramount Presents (710833) **11.25** Robin (603104) **11.30** Nightstand (45901) **12.00** Soap (34234) **12.30am** Pig Sty (95857) **1.00** Entertainment UK (44383) **1.30** Taxi (83760) *2.00 Roseanne* (1326876) **2.25** Robin (7676925) **2.30** Ellen (59370) **3.00** Cybill (64147) **3.30** Cheers (24050)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Sightings (6179659) **9.00** FILM: Ritual of Evil (1969) (6172746) **11.00** Friday the 13th (9643253) **12.00** Sightings (9745741) **1.00am** The Twilight Zone (1275437) **1.30** Tales of the Unexpected (7783857) **2.00** Dark Shadows (8617789) **2.30** New Alfred Hitchcock (8696296) **3.00** *Friday the 13th (1740925)* **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am Simply Painting (1106307) **9.30** Gardeners' Diary (4987611) **10.00** The Great Gardening Plot (9691185) **10.30** New Yankee Workshop (1195291) **11.00** Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures (1338659) **11.30** Hometime (1339388) **12.00** Garden Doctors (1186543) **12.30pm** Two's Country (4958727) **1.00** Sweet Things (6629814) **1.30** Home Again (4997098) **2.00** Furniture on the Mend (9236524) **2.30** These Four Walls (9224349) **3.00** Two's Country (9255659) **3.30** This Old House (9229494)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Lonely Planet (1312611) **5.00** Connections 2 (9250104) **5.30** Beyond 2000 (9228765) **6.00** Hunters (4908746) *7.00 Mysterious World (9230340)* **7.30** Disaster (9205814) **8.00** Ultimate Guide (9551272) **9.00** New Detectives (9571036) *10.00 Medical Detectives (1187272)* **10.30** Medical Detectives (1196920) **11.00** Firepower 2000 (6639291) **12.00** Fightline (2891418) **12.30am** Justice Eye (8946234) **1.00** Disaster (7189437) **1.30** Beyond 2000 (8057129) **2.00** Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Endangered (4604659) **7.30** Eagle and the Snake (7267456) **8.00** In Wildest Africa (7517814) **9.00** Under the Ice (7537678) **10.00** Wild! Life Adventures (7530765) **11.00** First Emperor of China (6812369) **12.00** Australia's Animal Mysteries (4802234) **1.00am** Close

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm The Great Days of the Century (2770524) *5.00 History Encore:* Titanic: the Legend Lives On (9775494) **7.00** Biography: The Red Baron — Master of the Air (5707861) **8.00** Close

CHALLENGE TV

Win with **Prize Time** twice an hour.
5.00pm Cross Wits (8746) **5.30** Say the Word (3920) **6.00** Family Fortunes (2843) **6.30** Catchphrase (1185) **7.15** The $64,000 Question (574727) **8.00** Split Second (167123) **8.30** Move on Up (5765) **9.15** Winner Takes All (868578) **10.00** Treasure Hunt (43494) **11.15** Whittle (848814) **12.00** Say the Word (72418) **12.30am** Hart to Hart (23857) **1.30** The Big Valley *(59050)* **2.30** Big Brother Jake (59760) **3.00** My Two Dads (95031) **3.30** Where I Live (40012) **4.00** *National Geographic Explorer (76215)* **5.00** Shopping (74609)

UK LIVING

6.00am Lucky Ladders **6.35** Lingo **7.00** Tiny Living **9.00** *I Dream of Jeannie* **9.30** Gordon Elliott **10.10** Jerry Springer **11.00** The Young and the Restless **11.50** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **12.20pm** Why Me? **12.50** Rolonda **1.40** Tempestt **2.30** Cheap Chic **3.00** Live at Three **4.05** Jerry Springer **5.00** Rolonda **5.50** Lucky Ladders **6.25** The Heat Is On **7.00** Hearts Afire **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **8.00** Adrenalin Junkies **9.00** FILM: A Burning Passion: The Margaret Mitchell Story **10.55** Sex Life **11.30** More Sex Life **12.00** Close

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran **7.30** Film Deewane **8.00** Raahat **8.30** Positive Health Show **9.00** Yaadon Ki Baraat **9.30** Teri Bhi Chup Meri Bhi Chup **10.00** Dasht **11.00** Zaike Ka Safar *11.30* Hasratein **12.00** Andaz **12.30pm** Raahat **1.00** FILM: Shraddhanjali **4.00** ZEE Zone Presents **4.05** Kamal Kombination **4.30** Khel Time **5.00** Zone Time **5.25** Flu **6.00** Chutki Baja Ke **6.30** ZEE and You **7.00** Ikka Pe Ikka **7.30** Mast Mast Hai Zindagi **8.00** News and Euronews **8.30** Parampara **9.00** FILM: Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak **12.00** Close

MTV

The 24 hour music channel. Includes news, reviews, live concert footage, interviews and the latest music video charts

VH-1

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ATHLETICS 42
Sutton in the running for Chicago Marathon

SPORT

RUGBY UNION 43
Blair gets England fit for survival

FRIDAY OCTOBER 17 1997

£13m fee scares off Ferguson

United get cold feet over Chile striker

By David Maddock

MANCHESTER United have reacted with some amusement *to suggestions that they are* about to pay £13 million for Marcello Salas, a relatively untested 21-year-old forward. There remains, however, a *distinct possibility that the* Chile international striker could eventually arrive at Old Trafford.

Salas enjoys a burgeoning *reputation in South America*, one that was enhanced on Saturday when, watched by Brian Kidd, the United assistant manager, he scored a hat-trick *in his country's 4-0* victory over Peru. Kidd duly gave a favourable report and Martin Edwards, the club chairman and chief executive, subsequently made contact with River Plate, the Argentine club that Salas is contract*ed to until* 1999, *to express an* interest.

The response has been confusing. David Pintado, the River Plate vice-president, was *reported as asserting that* Salas would not be allowed to leave before the end of the year, but, yesterday, Alfredo Davicci, *the president*, confirming United's interest, admitted that he would be prepared to open negotiations — at £13 million. Perhaps *coincidentally, that figure also* happens to represent the size of the club's debts.

Manchester United will be reluctant to become involved *in any talks that are* conducted in such a public manner. However, Alex Ferguson, the *manager*, indicated yesterday that while there is no immedi*ate prospect of any incoming* transfer, he would monitor the situation and could be prepared to move some time early in the new year, before the deadline for the knockout stages of the European Cup should United qualify.

"*We are aware of the lad*, but there is no prospect of any transfer at the club at present," he said. "We will not be signing anyone until after *the Champions' League* stage."

Sources within the club suggest that, although Ferguson is interested in signing Salas, he accepts that the club's board would not be willing to pay such a fee for an inexperienced forward. There *is also the tricky subject of* work permits. Salas has played barely a handful of games for his country and would have difficulty in qualifying *under the stringent* rules set down by the Department of *Employment*.

It is a road that United have been down before, when they *tried to sign Mauro da Silva*, the Brazilian. Edwards would be reluctant to make a further move unless he is confident of a successful outcome.

David Murray, the Rangers chairman, confirmed yesterday that he will allow Paul Gascoigne *to leave Glasgow* should the player so desire, yet despite reports that Aston Villa had bid £4 million for the England international, his *destination is far from certain*. Tottenham Hotspur, Gascoigne's former club, are thought likely to register their interest early next week.

Gascoigne has made *no* secret of his continuing affection for his former club and is *understood to have told* several close friends that he would love to return to Tottenham to enhance his chances of playing in the World Cup *finals next summer. He will* probably have to make a decision within the next week and it will not be easy.

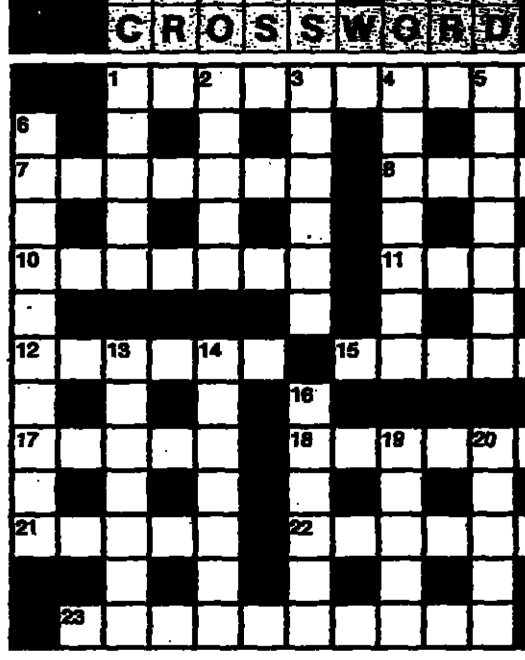
Gascoigne has been inspired by Rangers' attempt to win ten successive Scottish League titles, thus eclipsing *Celtic's record, but he* recognises several strong reasons for him to move, not least because he is not now guaranteed a first-team place.

Gascoigne also realises that the lack of competition at club level in Scotland could hinder *his prospects of playing in* France. Rangers are again out of Europe at an early stage and the intense rivalry in the FA Carling Premiership appears far more attractive.

Tottenham have remained quiet on the subject, in part because they are wary of being linked with a big-name player only to lose out, as happened with their attempts to sign Juninho and Fabrizio Ravanelli. There remains, however, a determination at the club to bring Gascoigne back to London. They have struggled for five years to fill the void left by *Gascoigne's departure*. Money, too, is no object, with Alan Sugar, the chairman, already sanctioning a bid in excess of the £4 million that *Rangers would demand*.

Salas has made a big impression at Old Trafford

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1227

ACROSS
1 Incantatory gibberish (5,5)
7 Let go; film, CD issue (7)
8 Stood along (route); careworn (face) (5)
10 Welsh capital (7)
11 Takes off (eg hat) (5)
12 *Subjugate; lessen (6)*
15 Part of body: *spinet (anag.)* (6)
17 *When signalled (2,3)*
18 Within earshot (7)
21 Alter; simple dress (5)
22 *Sol:* aquatic *insulation (7)*
23 Wastrel (4-2-4)

DOWN
1 Grinding tooth (5)
2 Florida resort (5)
3 Unrepeatable (item, event) (3-3)
4 With no cargo (7)
5 Advantage (7)
6 Chancy, insecure (10)
9 Vanishes (10)
13 Mislead (7)
14 *Originator* (7)
16 Panda food (6)
19 Two; 40-40 (5)
20 *Tower of confusion* (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1226
ACROSS: 1 Behind bars 8 All told 9 Theme 10 Easy *11 Sibilant 13 Chair 14 Aside* 16 Grounded *17 Limp* 20 Agent 21 Partake 22 Retrogress
DOWN: 1 Blake 2 Half-seas-over 3 Neon 4 Bodkin 5 Rattigan *6 Rehabilitate* 7 Beetle *12 Brunette 13 Cognac* 15 Keeper 18 Press 19 Brag

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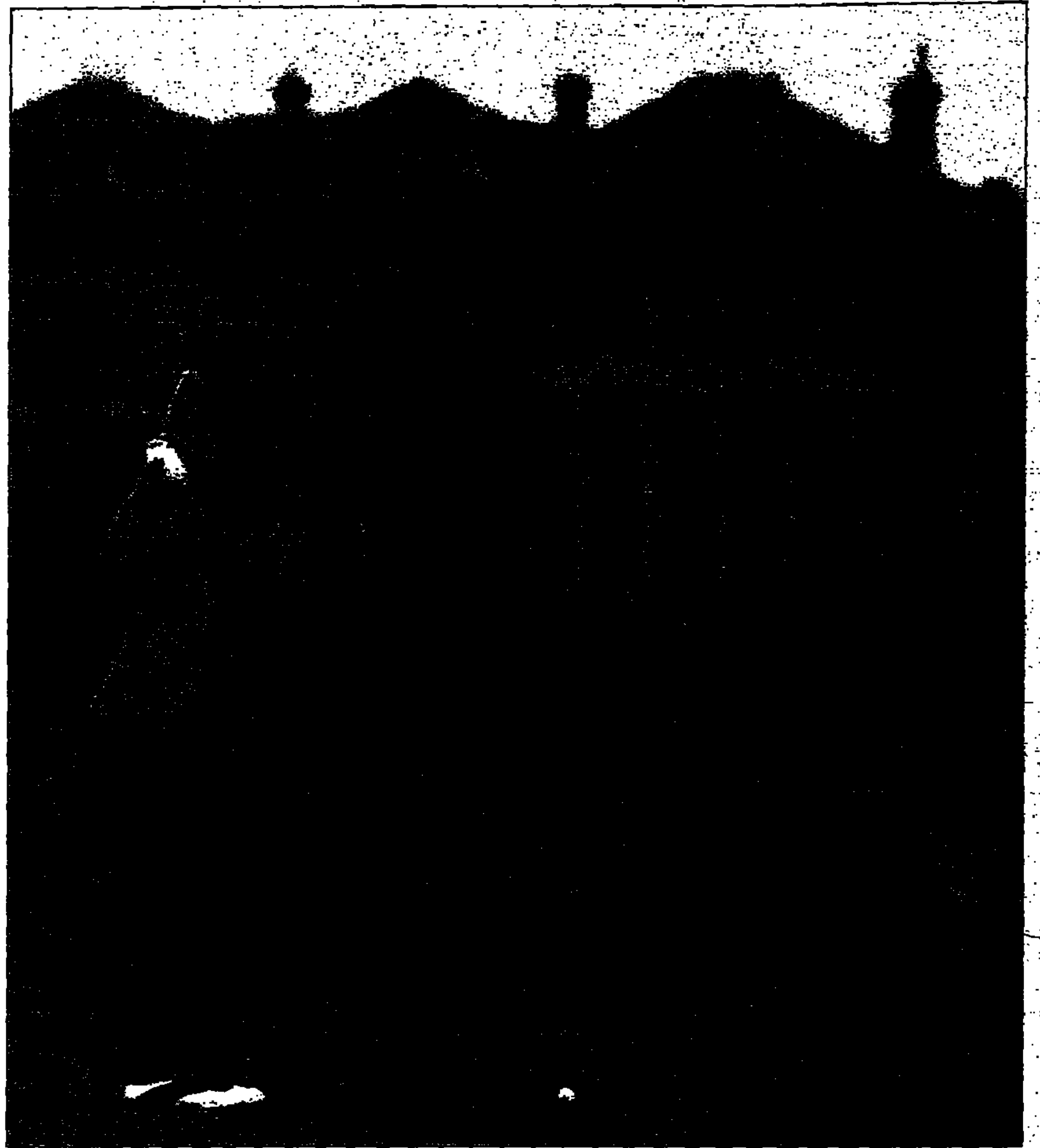
IAN STEWART



O'Meara, playing to the backdrop of the 18th, makes himself at home at St Andrews during the Dunhill Cup

O'Meara plays captain's role

MARK O'MEARA likes the Old Course at St Andrews. The American, whose greying hair, bulging waistline and friendly face make him resemble a middle-aged insurance salesman, feels comfortable at the place he refers to as the *home of golf. Such feelings of* familiarity were first demonstrated in the Dunhill Cup last year when O'Meara had a dazzling outward 28 on his way to a 63.

They were increased yesterday when O'Meara defeated *Eduardo Romero, of Argentina*, at the first extra hole of the United States v Argentina match. O'Meara had to play a captain's role because the *match depended on him*. With a resolute four, when he was helped by watching Romero hit his second into the Swilcan Burn after one bounce, O'Meara made sure the US defeated Argentina. A 65 by Justin Leonard, the Open *champion*, for victory over José Coceres, was cancelled out by Angel Cabrera's victory over Brad Faxon.

O'Meara's 63 last year con*tained eight successive birdies* from the 2nd to the 9th and was only one stroke outside the 62 by Curtis Strange in this event in 1987. And this despite *taking a six on the 17th*. *Leonard's 65 yesterday was* more than competent, too.

"I saw Justin was eight under after 12 holes," O'Meara said "and thought to myself: 'He is going to shoot a 59.' " A 59 was not on the cards after Leonard dropped strokes *on the 14th and 15th but he* ended courageously by getting a par at the 17th and birdieing the last.

One advantage of this pecu*liar medal matchplay* format is that every match must play the 17th, no matter by how *many strokes one man may* be leading the other. Most years the Road Hole gives so much pleasure and excitement it is worthy of an entrance fee all of *its own. Yesterday was no* exception.

Tsukasa Watanabe, the lightest man *in the Japan* team, ran up a six against Russell Claydon, the heaviest member of England's trio, which took the pressure off Claydon and helped England to win 3-0. Paul McGinley, of Ireland, birdied the 16th and then parred the 17th to claw *his way back to within two* strokes of Retief Goosen. This was not close enough, because he lost by one stroke to Goosen and with Darren Clarke taking too many putts against Ernie Els, Ireland lost to South Africa.

A *seven was taken on the* 17th by Raymond Russell, the Scot, who had the bizarre figures of 3, 3, 6, 4, 7 for the 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th holes, the pars for which are 4, 5, 4, 4, 4. Russell drove into the Old Course hotel on the 17th. *This did not cost his team dear* because he *still comfortably* beat Thomas Gogele and Colin Montgomerie, who went round in 67, was untroubled by a 73 by Sven Struver.

The 17th contributed to France's 2-1 defeat of Australia when Steve Elkington took a five *there and Jean Van de* Velde birdied it. That put the two men level. Elkington missed a six-foot uphill putt on the last green to win. Then, with less than 80 yards to go to the flag on the 1st, the man who won the Players' Champ*ionship last March hit his ball* in to the Swilcan Burn. Thus did he do like many a player before him — and no doubt many more in the days to come.

RESULTS FROM ST ANDREWS

GROUP ONE: England bt Japan 3-0 (England names first: R Claydon 70 bt Watanabe 71; L Westwood 70 bt N Sato 73; *M James 73 bt S Higaki 74*). United States bt Argentina 2-1 (United States names first: M O'Meara 67 bt E Romero 67 at 19th; B Faxon 72 lost to A Cabrera 68; J Leonard 65 bt J Coceres 72).

GROUP TWO: Sweden bt Taiwan 3-0 (Sweden names first: J Haeggman 72 bt Hsieh Yu-Shu 72 at 19th; *J Parnevik 65 bt Lu* Hsi-Chuen 75; P U Johansson 71 bt Chen Liang-Hsi 74). France bt Australia 2-1 (France: names first: F Tarnaud 70 bt R Allenby 71; J van de Velde 71 bt S Elkington 71 at 19th; M Farry 71 lost to S Appleby 68).

GROUP THREE: South Africa bt Ireland 2-1 (Ireland names first: P McGinley 71 lost to R Goosen 70; P Harrington 67 bt D Frost 69; *D Clarke 71 lost to E Els 66*). Scotland bt Germany 2-1 (Scotland names first: R Russell 68 bt T Gogele 74; G Brand Jr 69 lost to A Cejka 68; C Montgomerie 67 bt S Struver 73).

GROUP FOUR: Zimbabwe bt South Korea 2-1 (Zimbabwe names first: N Price 72 bt Kim Jong-Duck 74; M McNulty 69 bt Mo Joong-Kyung 76; T Johnstone 73 lost to *Kang Wook-Soon 73 at 19th*). New Zealand bt Spain 2-1 (New Zealand names first: S Alker 70 bt M A Martin 73; F Nobilo 70 bt I Garrido 75; M Long 72 lost to M A Jiménez 71).

Athletes confirm support for recovery programme

By David Powell, Athletics Correspondent

THE British Athletes' Association (BAA) yesterday gave unreserved backing to David Moorcroft to lead the sport out of its present crisis and, at the same time, said that its members were less concerned with personal losses than helping the recovery.

All the top-earning British athletes have yet to be paid for their appearances in British meetings *this year. Now they* face an anxious wait for their money after the British Athletic Federation, of which Moorcroft has been chief executive for 16 days, went *into* administration on Tuesday.

Jonathan Edwards and Sally Gunnell, for example, are owed in the region of £70,000. Yesterday the BAA met for the first time since the BAF declared itself insolvent, with a *deficit of* £530,000, and the meeting, which lasted six hours, was attended by 13 *members of the board of* 19.

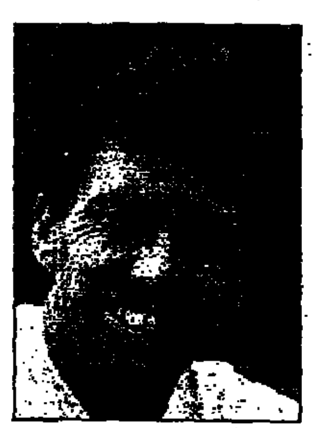
Among them was Paula Radcliffe, who said: "We are not so interested in the short-term let's-get-our-money-back approach. This has given us an incentive to set up a better structure for the sport and for the youngsters, to give them a *better chance than we had.*"

Moorcroft, having inherited a situation which, had he known it was coming, would have persuaded him against taking the job, *will stay for the* fight. Radcliffe described him as "a big asset" while Steve Backley, also present at the meeting in Birmingham, said that Moorcroft had "brought ideas to the table and was receptive to our ideas".

What those ideas were, the BAA would not say, although among those mentioned was a *registration scheme, long re*sisted but which could raise more than £1 million a year. Sean Pickering, a former sponsorship manager for *Canon and now a full-time* athlete and BAA director, said that a national coach in Holland had told him that he "could not understand how *the sport had lasted this long* without one."

Geoff Parsons, the BAA's full-time director, said that the meeting formed "a two-track approach". "*We wanted to* deliver as much information as we could and look at our responsibilities for the future," he added.

Ron Speight, of Moore Stephens Booth White, the Birmingham insolvency practitioner called in as the administrator, said yesterday that it would be probably two weeks before a plan *could be* formulated. "No hard and fast decisions have been made yet, and *will not be until we have* met all the interested parties and got their views," Speight said.



Moorcroft: committed

Villeneuve appeal withdrawn

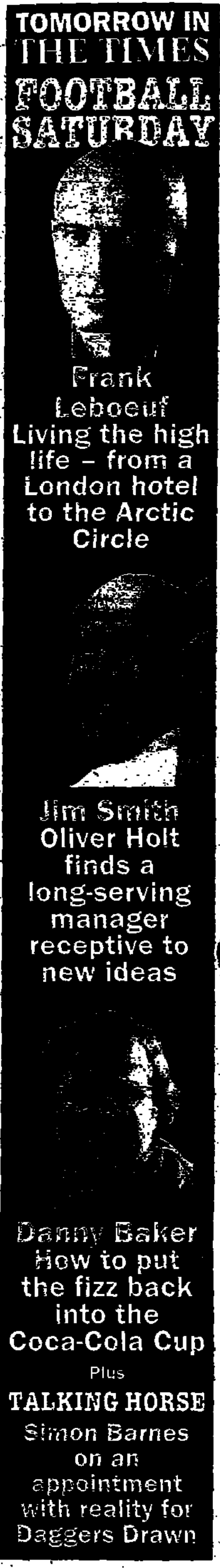
By Michael Calvin

JACQUES VILLENEUVE discovered the cost of his flawed challenge for the Formula One world championship yesterday, when the Williams team bowed to the inevitable and withdrew its *appeal against his disqualification* from the Japanese Grand Prix last weekend.

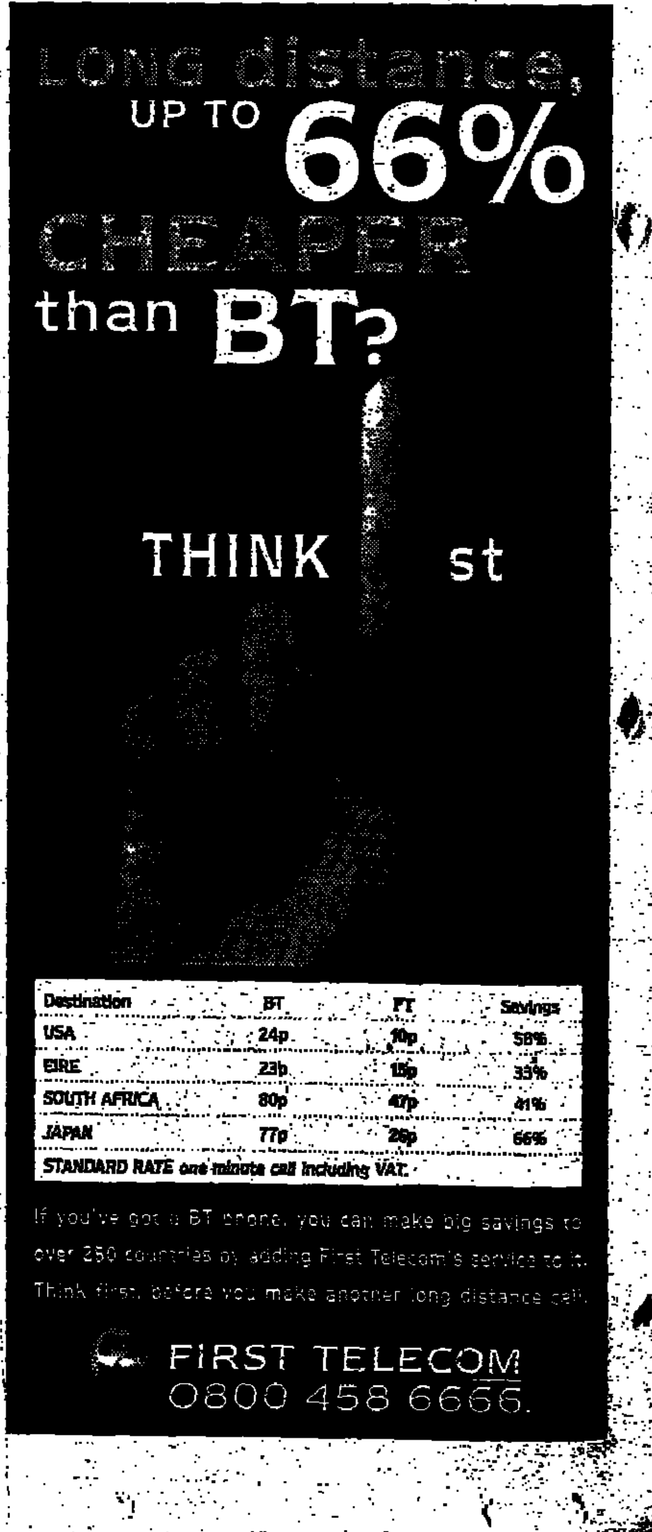
The loss of the two points earned for a nominal fifth *place at Suzuka means that he* must finish ahead of Michael Schumacher in the final race, at Jerez in nine days, to clinch the title.

The solitary compensation for the climbdown, decided upon at a meeting convened by Frank Williams, *the owner*, on Wednesday evening is that it takes the uncertainty of the appeal's process out of an increasingly complicated equation.

Formula One now has the climax to the season it craves, a *head-to-head* confrontation between its most eminent drivers. Schumacher, one point ahead, *has seized the initiative*. It is up to Villeneuve to prove that he has the strength of character to respond.



TOMORROW IN THE TIMES
FOOTBALL SATURDAY
Frank Leboeuf
Living the high life – from a London hotel to the Arctic Circle
Jim Smith
Oliver Holt finds a long-serving manager receptive to new ideas
Danny Baker
How to put the fizz back into the Coca-Cola Cup
Plus
TALKING HORSE
Simon Barnes on an appointment with reality for Daggers Drawn



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